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Move described as violation of Geneva convention

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r in Anter to OCCUPIED JERUSALEM ing with Israel.

Arison still Control of a suspected The latest death of a suspected Weinstay. arlson still OCCUPIED JEKUSALLING
5 buying the (AP) — The Israeli parliament
re for 5 cmit. Wednesday extended regulations e for 5 cents that permit the military to hold that permit the mantary to nonthe card the Palestinian prisoners inside
the card the "Israeli territory," raising comie doesn't plaints by liberals that the rulesfor the c violate the Fourth Geneva Convention.

Volume 14 Number 4276

VD RAPIOS Milton V

ne pai Arlea urs. And she se Mended over the

YORK (AP) Members of a 1,700-110 delegation of European and American peace activists com-Money American peace activists comilm just in plained that the Israeli occupawith their visits to the occupied isiness has a tenitories and plans to form a "human chain" next weekend

mem on the around Jerusalem's Old City.
In the occupied West Bank an ne 2 1 m in: Gazz Strip, shops were closed by In the occupied West Bank and a general strike called by the ig it, and in fundamentalist movement Hamas. The strike was first ordered for Christmas, but was ain Manandi. delayed after opposition by e Colour of Palestinian Christians.

In the Gaza Strip, Israeli sabled Vices troops shot and wounded four in the Palestinians in clashes with stone the Found throwing youths, Arab hospital d he ignoral officials said.

executes t At least 640 Palestinians have te should be been killed by Israelis in the "People two-year uprising against Israeli This said to occupation. Forty-three Israelis also have died, and 162 Palestiten't jon t mians have been slain by fellow t I guest a Arabs on suspicion of collaborat-

PANAMA CITY (Agencies) —

U.S. troops kept watch over the

Vatican embassy Wednesday af-

failed to break a stalemate on

what will happen to Panam's

ousted leader, General Manuel

would not turn Noriega over to

the United States and that no

talks had occurred on granting

Spokesman Joaquin Navarro

told a Vatican City news confer-

ence the Holy See thought the

matter could be resolved in

"days, not weeks," and was ex-

He said there had been no deci-

sion on Noriega's request for

Noticga probably will be granted

exile in a third country. But

Navarro said the Vatican had not

been in contact with "Spain,

Cuba, Nicaragua" or any other

country about the possibility of

offering exile.

Vatican officials have said

ing all aspects of the case.

The Vatican said Wednesday it

called inst ter three days of negotiations

Antonio Noriega.

him exile abroad.

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collaborator occurred Wednesday, when Jawad Hassan Mahmoud Tmaizi, 40, died of wonds suffered in an attack a day earlier.

Tmaizi was shot in the head and stomach after uprising activists stopped his car in the West Bank town of Hebron. Tmaizi, a former policeman, was accused of assisting Israeli authorities in arresting activists.

The 120-seat Knesset, or parhament, extended the emergency regulations of 1967 for two years at the request of the government. The vote was 29-9.

"The regulations enable the functioning of the infrastructures of justice," said legislator Uriel Lynn of Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's right-wing Likud bloc.

The regulations permit the military to hold Palestinians arrested in the occupied lands in "Israeli territory." They make Israeli law applicable to Israelis in the territories, but not to Palestinians, who are judged in military

"This means there are different laws for Jews and Arabs. This bill perpetuates discrimination," Amnon Rubinstein of the Liberal Shinni Party said during the Knesset's brief debate on extending the regulations.

.S.-Vatican stand-off

Navarro said it was "too soon"

"The problem is who will give

to start talks with third countries

him (Noriega) safe conduct," to a

The U.S. government, mean-while, said it planned to file

papers Wednesday in several

countries to freeze more than \$10

million in "illegal drug money" it

contends that Noriega has

General Maxwell Thurman.

who commands U.S. forces in

Central and South America,

spent nearly six hours outside the

Vatican mission Tuesday. He met

three times with Monsignor

Sebastian Laboa, the papal nun-

cio, on the street and spent the rest of the time waiting in a car.

U.S. officials would comment on

and his car as he was leaving the

embassy Tuesday. The nuncio was allowed to leave after the

search. U.S. authorities had no

Neither Thurman nor other

U.S. soldiers searched Laboa

continues over Noriega

about accepting Noriega.

third country, he said.

stashed away.

the negotiations.

Palestinian prisoners in Israel "contravenes the Geneva convention, which Israel signed and is bound by."

AMMAN THURSDAY-FRIDAY, DECEMBER 28-29, 1989, JUMADA AL OULA 29-30, 1410

The army is currently bolding about 9,000 Palestinians and has jailed more than 40,000 during the uprising.

Many have been held in the Ketziot prison camp in the Naqueb desert, and the United States, and human rights group have repeatedly complained that imprisonment there violates the Geneva convention rule against transferring prisoners out of occupied territory.

Also Wednesday, some of the 1,300 visiting peace activists toured towns in the West Bank, but witnesses said the army blocked one bus of about 50 people from entering Jericho, while letting a second one through later.

Marina Sereni, spokeswoman for the movement "1990: Time for Peace," said the army gave no reason for the action.

Sereni also said the group was appealing to authorities to reverse a ban on visits by the peace activists to Palestinian refugee camps on the grounds that the army could not ensure their

On Wednesday, U.S. troops

estered the embassy, mowing a

field of tall grass beside the build-

ing and shooting out all working

street lights with a pellet gun. A

company of troops also paraded past the embassy before dawn. U.S. President George Bush

ordered an assault on Panama-

nian military bases a week ago in

a bid to capture Noriega and

install a government of opposi-

tion leaders who were believed to

have won presidential elections in

May later annulled by Noriega's

Noriega, who is wanted in the United States on drug trafficking

charges, eluded capture for five days before going to the Vatican

mission Sunday to seek asylum.

bring him back to the United

Marlin Fitzwater said

tates," White House spokesman

The United States and the

Vatican have no extradition trea-

ty and the Vatican has criticised

"Our position is, we mean to



South African leader Archbishop Desmond Tutu look at a Palestinia boy who gives the "V" sign as he passes the Dome of the Rock during a tour of Jerusalem this week. At right is Sheikh Mohammed Al Jamal, deputy mufti of Jerusalem, and second from left is Faisal Husseini, a leading Palestinian activist

# resume full ties

DAMASCUS (Agencies) -Egypt and Syria said in a joint communique Wednesday they had resumed full diplomatic relaending a decade-old nit. The communique was issued after a two-hour meeting in Damascus between Syrian Presi-

dent Hafez Al Assad and Egyptian Prime Minister Atef Sedki. It said the two countries had decided to renew relations in the light of "current international developments and their expected

impact on the Arab Nation." Sedki was the most senior Egyptian leader to visit Syria since 1979 when Damascus led most Arab countries in breaking ties with Cairo because of its separate peace treaty with Israel.

Out of the close historic relations between the Arab people in Syria and Egypt and the brilliant pages of their joint struggle throughout Arab history against past and present challenges... the two governments agreed to resume their full diplomatic relations as of today (Wednesday)."

the communique said. The announcement left Libva as the only Arab state which has not restored full relations with

The communique, signed by Sedkì and Syrian Prime Minister Mahmoud Zu'bi, said both countries firmly believed in the need January."

Jordan voices satisfaction

Jordan expressed "extreme satisfaction" with the decision of Egypt and Syria to resume di-

Foreign Ministry Spokesman said: "Jordan, being the first to initiate resumption of diplomatic ties with Egypt, views (the Egyptian-Syrian) step as an important positive development aimed at completing Arab solidarity and uniting our nation's capabilities."

The spokesman also referred to the "importance of this step in preserving national security, particularly at a time when important developments are happening in the international arena."

to achieve fuli Arab reconcilia-

"This reconciliation forms the sound basis for joint Arab action to safeguard the interests of the Arab nation and its peoples who are thirsty for progress," it said. Sedki told a news conference

earlier: "The ice between Egypt and Syria has vanished and it has been decided to hold a summit between (Egyptian) President Hosni Mubarak and... Assad during the first days of next

# **Badran and Ramadan** open ACC premises

Iran sets Amal-Hizboliah truce

fighting between its affice and their Syrian-backed Amai foes for control of strategic villages in South Lebanon near the Israeli border. "We officially

strategy: vitinges in South Lebanon hear the israen border. "We officially amastunce a crasefire as of 10.00 p.m. (2000 GMT) this evening," Iran's First Deputy Foreign Minister Ali Mohammad Resharati told a news conference at the iranian embassy in west Beirut. After his announcement, fighting eased in intensity between the pro-Iranian Hizbollah (Party of God) and Amal in the Iqlim Al Tufah region extending from the southern port of Sidon to Israel's self-declared "security zone" in south Lebanou.

port of Sidon to Israel's self-declared "security zone" in south Lebanou. Earlier two fighters were killed and six were wounded when Amal tried to recapture lost ground from Hizbolish under cover of an artillery barrage. The Lebanese government measuhile appealed to all kidnappers in Lebanon to release their hostages and extended recognition to the new governments in Romania and Panausa. Lebanon also said it was lodging an argent complaint with the United Nations Security Council against Israel's latest ground and air attacks that left 12 people killed and 31 wounded (Security 2).

AMMAN (J.T.) - Prime Minis- cooperation and cooperation day at the Ministry of Industry ter Mudar Badran and Iraqi First Deputy Premier Taha Yassin Ramadan Wednesday inaugurated the premises of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) General Secretariat in Amman.

Addressing the opening cere-mony, ACC Secretary General Hilmi Nammar thanked His Majesty King Hussein and the Jordanian government for their continuing support for the secre-

He also briefed Badran and Ramadan on the secretariat's activities and future plans, particularly in the area of providing information and data on the ACC countries - Jordan, Iraq, North

Yemen and Egypt.
Ramadan arrived in Amman Wednesday at the head of an official Iraqi delegation to take part in the meetings of the Joint Higher Jordanian-Iraqi Committee, which started here late Wednesday.

In an arrival statement, Ramadan described economic cooperation with Jordan as excellent. He noted that 95 per cent of the provisions of cooperation in the economic field had been implementated. He said that the committee would discuss bilateral

within the framework of the

On the Iran-Iraq war, Rama-dan said that Iran had failed to respond to Iraqi peace overtures. Iran still has a negative attitude toward peace efforts, Ramadan said.

"Iran has not expressed a sin-cere desire to achieve a just and permanent peace and it has not clearly responded to (Iraq's suggestion) for the formation of specialised committees for detailed and practical discussions... to end the state of no-war no-peace between the two countries," he

Iraq proposed last month that Iraqi-Iranian committees should be set up under U.N. auspices to break a deadlock in peace talks to turn the 1988 ceasefire in the Gulf war into a lasting settlement.

Ramadan is accompanied by an Iraqi delegation comprising Minister of Transport and Communication Mohammad Hamzeh, Trade Minister and Acting Finance Minister Mohammad Saleh and a number of senior Iraqi officials.

The joint ministerial committee opened its meetings Wednes-

and Trade.

The Jordanian side was led by Minister of Industry and Trade Ziad Fariz while the Iraqi side was led by Hamzeh. The two sides reviewed a draft official report prepared by a technical committee earlier. The report covers Jordanian-Iraqi relations in the fields of trade, transport, industry, agriculture, health, and

Present at the meeting were the two other Iraqi ministers accompanying Ramadan and Jordan's Ministry of Industry and Trade Secretary General Mohammad Al-Saggaf.

Later Wednesday, Badran conferred with Ramadan and exchanged views on the latest developments in the Arab and international arenas and discussed issues of common interest.

They chaired the first working session of the joint Jordanian-Iraqi committee. Exchanging speeches, they stressed that the committee was designed to attain the objectives His Majesty King Hussein and President Saddam Hussein had set. The committee will resume its

meetings Thursday.

### Romania vows never to return to communism

BUCHAREST (Agencies) — tions' Committee on Human Romania will never return to Rights, was placed under house will be held next April, new report condemning the human Vice-President Dumitru Mazilu rights situation under Ceausescu. said Wednesdav

"Romania will be free, not Communist but democratic," Mazilu told reporters at the Foreign Ministry after a news conference.

"In April we shall have free elections, like we never had before and Romania will be free," said Mazilu, speaking in English after the first session of the country's new National Salvation Front government.

Mazilu also defended the swift trial and execution Monday of deposed dictator Nicolae Ceansescu as a necessity forced by a revolutionary situation.

"In my opinion this was in perfect order and the procedure was correct under conditions of the revolution," Mazilu said.

"We had to make an example of the tyrant in order to make it impossible to have a repeat of the

situation that existed before the revolution," he added. The United States has criticised

the secret trial and immediate execution of Ceausescu and his wife Elena who had ruled the country with an iron hand for 24 vears. Mazilu, a former ambassador

who reported to the United Na-

Earlier this year he managed to smuggie out an even stronger report which was given to a U.N. commission on discrimination against ethnic minorities.

"I was under house arrest and my son and wife were almost executed," he said. "We were all freed on the first day of the revolution."

Mazilu was named Tuesday as deputy president by the National Salvation Front, Romania's ruling pro-democracy coalition.

Ultimatum to secret police The new government has given

former secret police gunmen until Thursday evening to surrender or face the death penalty. The government also said it

would scrap hated legislation brought in by Ceausescu. The provisional government

announced it was setting up special military courts across the country with powers to hold spot trials and carry out sentence immediately. The forces loyal to Ceausescu

have until 5 p.m. Thursday to give themselves up and turn in their weapons, a decree signed by provisional leader Ion Iliescu

Anyone seized after the deadline would be tried by the special communism and free elections arrest in 1985 after submitting a courts and sentence carried out swiftly, it said, clearly suggesting the Ceausescu forces would be

The ultimatum, read out on Bucharest Radio, appeared aimed at speeding up army operations against die-hard remnants of the now-dismantled securitate forces who ran Ceausescu's police

A similar deadline set last Monday was ignored by the wellarmed securitate gunmen who have sown terror across the coun-

try by opening fire on civilians and military. The army has since tightened

its grip and says it faces resistance only in isolated pockets. Aiming to convince the public that Ceausescu was dead and to

demoralise the remnants of the secret police, Romanian television Tuesday night screened a video tape of the couple's military trial. Ceausescu and Elena adopted

a tone of arrogance to the end, refusing to recognise the tribunal (see page 8).

Romanian television on Wednesday showed the bodies of the couple. Elena's dress was drenched in blood and the wall behind her was pockmarked from what appeared to be machine gun

### PLO fights against a loaded dice in dialogue with U.S. PLO Central Council in Tunis in

By Lamis K. Andoni

WHEN FORMER Presdient Ronald Reagan finally gave the signal to and the American boycott of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) in December 1988, the step was heralded as a historic breakthrough in the Middle East peace process. A year later, howev er, prospects for a peaceful settle-ment remain clusive, while the dialogue itself seems to have lost its

There is actually no dialogue is, said a senior PLO official. "And even when there were official talks they have achieved very lit-ile," he added.

Despite four rounds of official U.S.-P.O talks in Tunis and minimizers contacts differences persist on both substantiative and procedural issues, while there are hard-ly any common demonstrators to be found between the PLO and the Israeli government. But if it might have been un-

realistic to expect the Bush admi-nistration to untie the knots of the Arab Israeli conflict in less than Me year — its period in office the dislogue would lead at least to the cumbistancest of direct, official and high level channels of communications with Washington lastend there has been a conof the dialogue" as third parties have become the "official channels" replacing direct contacts.

The most striking manifestation of the diminishing importance of the dialogue as a direct and official ne when the U.S. stipnlated that the PLO should convey its reply to U.S. Secretary of State, IS reply in U.S. Secretary of State,
James Baker's proposals be conveyed through the Egyptian goverument. Thus, when the PLO tried
"to make a point" by delivering its
reply to the American ambassador
its Tunds, a U.S. snokezman Tunit, a U.S. spokerman clared that it was "ab unofficial"

response.
The "regression" in the American position, however, did not confine to the modalities of the relations, but seems to reflect an approach to the conflict by the

According to PLO officials, the dialogue ceased to function as a major channel of negotiations last Angust immediately following the fourth round of talks held in Tu Later, the PLO was "notified," through a third West European channel, that the American administration preferred not to operate through "a local broker," and in

that case it was Cairo. The justification given, according to PLO officials, was that the new administration wanted to avoid burning its fingers if the peace process collapsed. Since then, Egypt has become the major if not the only official channel for the U.S.-PLO dialogue.

Palestinian officials believe that

Washington deliberately sought to substitute Cairo as the direct U.S.-PLO channel for two reasons: First, to evade demands by the PLO for American guarantees regarding herence to implementation of any agreed upon settlement and a central role for the PLO; second, Washington hoped that Cairo would have more leverage on the PLO and tims can succeed in extracting more Palestinian conces-

Other PLO officials, however argue that the Egyptian role was seminfereed by the attitude of Palestine. President Yasser Arafat, who was apparently hoping that Carro's weight and influence would enhance the organisation's negotistical position. tiating positi But even before Cairo's media-

To begin with, and contrary to the PLO's expectations, the U.S. did not upgrade its level of contacts which remained confined to U.S. Ambassador in Tunis Robert Pellit-.

tion practically replaced the estab-lished direct PLO-U.S. line, the

dialogue did not seem to be prog-ressing towards comenting a direct

reau, who, according to PLO offi-cials, had limited negotiating pow-er" has been diminishing. "His role appeared to have been reduced to conveying messages," a PLO offi-

Not a total surprise

The apparent shift in the American attitude, however, was not a total surprise to the PLO, as the focus of the actual talks had always revolved around pressures on the organisation to give a green light to territories to negotiate with Israel. In other words, the Americans, according to PLO officials, had never got down to discuss

central or a direct role for the PLO Moreover, the Americans did not show interest in discussing the Palestinian peace strategy. Thus, when Israeli Prime Minister Yuzhak Shamir launched his election proposals, it almost automatically came the focus of the dialogu

Yet, until last April, many PLO officials, including Arafat, had entertained hopes in the ability of the dialogue to evolve into a higher stage of relations with Washington. Palestinian hopes in the advancement of the dialogue caused heated internal differences, even within Fatch itself, during a meeting of the the end of March. Arafat was then, albeit with difficulty, able to convince "hardlines" to give the dialogue a chance.

But by August, as the American administration publicly endorsed the main principles of the Shamir proposal, Arafat's patience was starting to wane. Supporters of the dialogue came

under fire during the fifth congress of the Fatch, held in Tunis in Angust, and the final Fatch com-munique stressed armed struggle as a viable and strategic alternative.

'Procrastination'

Arafat himself was by then convinced that the U.S. was "deliber-ately procrastinating in a bid to give Israel time to crush the intifada." At the congress he came under pressure to pledge that the Fatch movement would be prepared for other options if the peace process

The fourth and last round of the Palestinian-American dialogue was held in Tunis immediately after the Fatch congress and the U.S. protested against the Fateh com-

munique.

According to analysts, the tone of the Fateh congress surprised the American administration which much of its militant spirit.

The August meeting was the last round of official American talks with the PLO, and since then the meetings confined to Pellitrean and the PLO Ambassador in Tunis Hakam Balawi who meet frequently to exchange messages.

But the last straw, from the Palestinian view, was Baker's plan which appeared to aim at marginalising the PLO's role.

In the Palestinian opinion, Bak-er's plan was consistent with the official American attitude towards the dialogue and it had actually provided a mechanism on how to roceed with the Israeli-proposed elections.

Baker's plan which was not in mediately conveyed to the PLO, marked a turning point when the PLO felt that its exclusion has become the centre of official American policy.

To bloc any exclusion of the PLO, ithe Central Council met in Baghdad last October and stipulated that

it should name the Palestinian delegation to the proposed Israeli-Palestinian dialogue, which should be part of efforts leading to the ing of an international peace conference. It also demande international sponsorship for the suggested dialogue.

New course

In essence, the PLO approved the dialogue but insisted on its full involvement. But, by then, the process was taking a relatively new course, as Cairo was emerging as the principal interlocutor — at least as far as the U.S. and Israel were

Arafat went to Cairo in November and the Egyptian government tried to persuade him to take a more conciliatory stand to accept that he would stay out of a direct and public role in naming the de-

In an attempt to show more iteribility and to get American guarantees, Arafat asked for "clar-ifications" on the PLO's role in the process and on the process of the formation of the Palestinian delegation. In the list of queries, the PLO asked if "it was clear to the U.S. that the PLO would appoint the delegation in the organisation's capacity as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian isation's

The American reply was that Washington recognised that the party which would name the delegation would be the most influen-tial Palestinian force. The American response implied that Washington was aware that the PLO will name the delegation, but

that it does not recognise it as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. Later on, the PLO was also notified that its role should remain invisible and in-

By then Cairo did not only replace the direct U.S.-PLO channel but the U.S.-Palestinian dialogue was practically evolving into bone-breaking" confrontation which took different forms.

The American objective, as the PLO saw it, was to force the PLO to accept a marginal role and to accept that Cairo played the major and public role in conveying and announcing Palestinian decisions. U.S. 'pressure'

The PLO countered by calling on an emergency Arab meeting at the foreign ministerial level to support the PLO stance. The organisation's frustrations grew while its suspi-cions about American objectives were confirmed when Arab diplo mats reported an American letter to the Arab ministers urging them not to endorse a position that "would bloc Egyptian efforts."

The meeting itself, which took place in Tunis in late November, was attended by four Arab foreign ministers — representing Jordan, Iraq, Tunis and Algiers — while the other countries sent lower level

(Continued on page 3)

### Rebels claim capture of major town

### FAO seeks urgent aid to feed 4 million Ethiopians

NAIROBI (Agencies) — A U.N. agency Wednesday appealed for 700,000 tons of food to avert widespread starvation in northern Ethiopia where it said as many as four million people are threatened by famine.

The Rome-based U.N. Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) said its estimate was based on a recent crop survey which found that serious drought had cut harvests by nearly 80 per cent in Eritera and 50 per cent in Eritrea's southern neighbour,

Tigre.
FAO said there also would be food deficits in eastern Ethiopia and to a lesser extent in pockets of the southern and central re-

An "international relief operation of major proportions" is needed to avert a repeat of the 1984-85 drought and famine when an estimated one million people died, FAO Director-General Edouard Saouma said in a news release issued in Nairobi.

The Ethiopian government has put the number of people threatened with hunger at 1.8 million and directed the country's own relief agencies to study ways to get relief food to them. But Saouma said the situation

has deteriorated since the FAO's initial estimates in September. "The population at risk is increasing at an alarming rate," he

Saouma said current food stocks in the affected areas would be exhausted by early 1990.

He said only 270,000 tons of food had been pledged so far by appealed for 700,000 tons of emergency food mostly for the drought-affected northern regions and 400,000 tons of structu-

ral and project food aid. Saouma also urged donors to provide logistic support to ensure the "timely delivery" of the emergency aid

Saouma did not specify the nature of logistic support, but-fighting in Eritrea and Tigre between the government and insurgents has closed many roads, a ituation that might require aircraft for relief deliveries.

Relief agencies and donors have so far unsucessfully appealed to the rebels and the government to agree on air and ground corridors through which supplies can move, unhindered by fighting.

Another U.N. agency, the World Food Programme, has appealed for 600,000 tons of food to feed as many as four million

Rebels in Northern Ethiopia said Wednesday they had defe-ated a major offensive by government forces and captured the large town of Debre Tabor in Gondar province, 320 kilometres northwest of Addis Ababa.

A spokesman for the Tigre People's Liberation Front (TPLF) told Reuters 3,200 government troops had been killed or wounded in heavy fighting around Debre Tabor which started last week.

"It's a very significant victory," spokesman Tewolde Gabru said from London in a telephone in-

international donors and terview. He did not detail rebel

Tewolde said rebei forces took Debre Tabor, on the road from Gondar to Wollo province, after defeating a three-pronged offensive by government troops from the 603rd army corps. TPLF clandestine radio said

Wednesday the decisive battle for Debre Tabor had taken place Monday and Tuesday.

The broadcast, monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), said two Ethio-pian generals abandoned their troops and fled a few hours after the heavy fighting started.

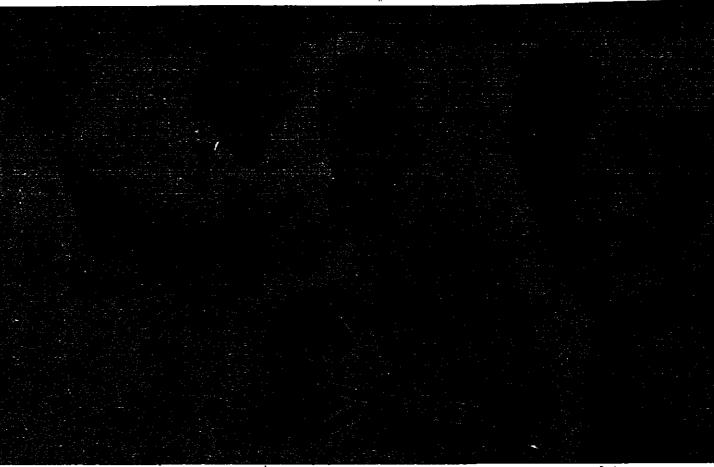
The TPLF and its small ally the

Ethiopian People's Democratic Movement (EPDM) control the whole of Tigre province and since the end of August have pushed south to capture large areas of Gondar, Wollo and Shoa.

The two rebel movements are fighting together as the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF) to topple the Soviet-backed government of President Mengistu Haile Mariam and set up a broaderbased government.

Another rebel movement, the Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) is fighting for the independence of the Red Sea province of Eritrea, a former Italian colony.

Tewolde said the government offensive in Gondar and Wollo had been launched with the aid of thousands of new recruits drafted into the army over the last three



Starvation threat looms: Tigre farmers gather their failed barley crop as Ethiopia faces a famine

### GCC strives to settle border disputes

By Eric Hall

DUBAI - Six Gulf Arab states are making concerted efforts to clean up a series of border disputes tarnishing the image of their otherwise successful political and economic alliance, Arab and western political

Closed talks on the problem at the annual summit of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Qatar, and Oman in Muscat last week were already bearing fruit, they say.

There is a general realisation that these things have to be settled, and settled peacefully. if the GCC (Gulf Cooperation Council) is going to continue to

Since the end of the 10th GCC meeting, Saudi Arabia and Oman have agreed to finally settle the demarcation of

their border. Diplomats said Saudi King Fahd had also started a round of shuttle diplomacy with a visit to Bahrain last Saturday to mediate in a longstanding dispute between Bahrain and Qatar over some small islands

lying between their countries. The border problems on the Arabian Peninsula have their roots in the historic movement of nomadic tribes through vague frontiers.

These problems were natural because of the interdependence of tribes, shifting local allegiances, and the constant change in political power between local chieftains, the Ottoman empire, and then the British," said one Gulf Arab

Discovery of the biggest oil and gas deposits in the world over the past 30 years compounded the problem by forcing peoples accustomed to flux to create fixed nation states sitting firmly on top of these energy reserves.

The tribal defence of small and scattered desert oasis wells, which assured them of life-giving water, turned into a national preoccuation with the barren desert itself, which might assure the nascent Gulf states of undreamed of wealth.

"Energy resources became the problem, otherwise who would want most of the land bere," said another Western

Saudi Arabia, which borders every other modern state on the

had more difficulty fixing its frontiers than the others, the diplomats said. Even now, remote tribes on the Saudi border with the two

Yemens, which are not GCC members, are difficult to police and come and go much as they please, diplomats say. Diplomatic analysts say the Bahrain-Qatar dispute is a per-

fect example of the newer problems associated with energy resources. The Hawar Islands are little

more than sand-covered rocks but they are believed to sit on top of huge gas deposits. The diplomats said a solution may be to divide the islands

eastern village of Nabi Safi, It was the Israeli army's heaviest ground tarust into Leba between the two, or make them non since an assault against the neutral and split any revenues Popular Front for the Liberation that may accrue from future gas of Palestine-General Command ACC

# protests Israeli attacks

BEIRUT (AP) — Lebanon said Wednesday it was lodging an outility urgent complaint with the United story Vations Security Council against Israel's latest ground and arrive attacks that left 12 people killed and 31 wounded.

Prime Minister Salim Al Hoss' 4000 office said in a statement instructions were being transmitted to need Lebanon's U.N. mission to sub. is all mit the complaint against "this into blatant aggression, without and asking for a council debate. The attacks, 12 hours apart, sed

were staged Tuesday. Paratroopers backed by tanks all and helicopter gunships destroyed a guerrilla base of the Communist Party in southeast Lebanon before dawn, and warplanes blasted a command post of

the same group at sunset. Rescuers worked under spot is lights overnight to dig out victims forther from the rubble of the two-storey position in the coastal town of Rmeile, 32 kilometres south of

Police said the final casualty et toll of the Rmeile attack stood at supple 10 killed and 28 wounded, the mist heaviest among Israel's 18 air inche raids into Lebanon this year. That toll surpassed a similar The raid on pro-Iranian Hizbollah pros

(Party of God) bases in South as-by Lebanon Aug. 27 which left nine wined guerrillas killed and 27 wounded. a ser In all, 28 people have been solution killed and 137 wounded in the 18 u cust air strikes since Jan. 11. Tuesday's ground assault was good staged by 100 paratroopers back-

ed by four tanks and eight The armoured personnel carriers. Iwo Communist guerrillas were n subj killed and three wounded in the The a attack on the base in the south-

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#### Romanian leaders want good ties with **Arabs**

TUNIS (R) — The new Romanian leadership has reassured the Arab League it wants good relations with Arab states and does not believe allegations that Arabs were fighting in support of the late President Nicolae Ceausescu.

Adnan Omran, assistant general of the leagu told Reuters Wednesday, that U.S.-financed Radio Free Europe, based in West Germany. had broadcast a report that Arab "mercenaries" were fighting alongside Ceausescu's secret

by Romanian Charge d'Affaires Marin Albu at a meeting in Tunis "He said the intention of the

National Salvation Front was to stress good relations with the ment of Arabs in the fighting."

had not come from the new leadership or the official Romanian Radio Bucharest said last week that unidentified foreign merce-

"It came from elements hostile to the Arabs and known to be pro-Zionist in the past," he added. Omran said he was reassured

Arabs and he denied any involve-A Romanian embassy spokesman declined to comment but pointed out that the allegations

naries had joined Ceausescu's secret police and the Yugoslavian and Hungarian media identified them as Syrians and Libyans. Syria and Libya have dismissed the allegations.

### Deported Iranian claims maltreatment by British

NICOSIA (AP) — An Iranian student deported from Britain for "reasons of national security" arrived Wednesday in Tehran and accused the British police of subecting him to mental and physical torture during interrogation.

The official Islamic Republic

News Agency (IRNA) said Karen Abrinia, a 32-year-old engineering student in Manchester, England, was met on arrival at Mehrabad airport by delegations from the ministries of culture and higher education as well as a large group of Tehran University stu-

IRNA, monitored in Nicosia, said Abrinia and three fellow Iranians were arrested on Dec. 15 after a prayer gathering at a Manchester Mosque during which Muslims renewed their commitment to the teachings of the late Ayatoliah Ruhollah Khomeini.

The other three were identified as Mehrdad Kokabi, Hussein Gharibi and Javad Musavi. After five days of interrogation, police released Gharibi and Musavi, and announced that Kokabi and Abrinia would be deported "for reasons of national security." British authorities did not pro-

ride other details. IRNA quoted Abrinia as saying that while in custody he was subjected to "severe mental pressure," and that his interrogators threatened to imprison his wife and send their five-year-old child to a nursery for care.

He claimed, according to IRNA, that the British police treated the four detainees in an 'ugly and inhumane" manner, but did not elaborate on the alleged physical abuse.

IRNA said Kokabi, 33, who was supposed to be deported with Abrinia "has been jailed again for trial."

It did not say when Kokabi was rearrested. Local police in Manchester

Wednesday referred calls on the subject to Scotland Yard, the national police force. A spokesman for Scotland

Yard said "not at all" when asked if Kokabi had been rearrested. "As far as we're concerned, we've got rid of them," refusing to be named. The Iranians were arrested

under the prevention of terrorism act which gives the British police the right to hold suspects for seven days without being charged. Attorney Zahir Aziz, who rep-

resented the four Iranians, has said they were under the impression that they were arrested on suspicion they planned to kill Indian-born British author Salman Rushdie.

The latest friction coincided with indications London-Tehran ties may be patched up after nearly a year of strain.

Relations were severed in February after Khomeini called on Muslims to kill Rushdie for allegedly biaspheming Islam in his novel "The Satanic Verses."

Khomeini, patriarch of the Islamic revolution, died June 3. Iranian President Hashemi Rafsanjani, a so-called pragmatist, has since been trying to patch up relations with the West and end Iran's decade-long isolation.

But his anti-western hardline rivals have been blocking his

### Iran, Turkey

better ties NICOSIA (AP) — Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati discussed with a Turkish envoy in Tehran Wednesday bilateral relations that had been strained over the alleged harassment of Iranian

students in Turkey. The Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) said Velayati and his guest, Turkish Deputy Foreign Minister Hosein Chalim. emphasised during their talks the importance of frequent contacts to expand relations.

The agency, monitored in Nicosia, said they also called for closer cooperation among the three member states of the Economic Cooperation Organisation

 Turkey, Iran and Pakistan.
 Chalim, IRNA added, extended through Velayati a formal invitation to Iranian President Hashemi Rafsanjani from his Turkish counterpart, Turgut Ozal, to visit Turkey.

Chalim arrived in Tehran Monday on a four-day official visit. Tehran newspapers lashed out at Ankara last month, claiming that a number of Iranian students in Turkey had been arrested and tortured by police.

The newspaper alleged that the students' homes were ransacked and the occupants arrested after a Saudi diplomat in Ankara lost both legs in a car-bomb explo-

#### MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Yang praises GCC efforts NICOSIA (R) — Chinese President Yang Shangkun expressed support Wednesday for efforts by the Gulf Cooperation Council Omani News Agency reported. Yang discussed the stalled U.N.sponsored peace talks between Iran and Iraq with Sultan Qaboos Ben Said of Oman, who last week hosted a summit meeting of the six GCC leaders. "The Chinese president stressed his country will continue to support GCC efforts and the role of the U.N. secretary-general" to break the deadlock, the agency quoted Omani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Yousef Ben Alawi as saying. China is one of the five permanent members in the Security Council, whose resolution 598 brought about a ceasefire in the eight-year Gulf war 16 months ago. Yang, who earlier visited Egypt, the United Arab Emirates and Kuwait, is on his first foreign trip since Chinese forces violently crushed pro-democracy demonstrators in Peking in June. Chinese and Western political analysts have said his tour is apparently aimed at countering Western

#### Israel confirms Iran oil deal

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel, breaking 10 days of silence, has acknowledged it bought oil from Iran. "I was informed of the matter," Foreign Minister Moshe Arens told Israeli reporters in Beersheba late Tuesday when asked about the purchase. A senior foreign ministry official Wednesday confirmed the minister's acknowledgement of the Israeli-Iran deal, which the American television network NBC reported was linked to efforts to free Israeli soldiers held in Lebanon. At least one of six missing Israeli soldiers is held by pro-Iranian groups of Lebanon. Israel previously declined comment on an NBC report of Dec. 17 that it paid \$36 million for two million barrels of Iranian oil unloaded in 'Eilat in mid-November. The deal recalled the embarrassing Iran-contra scandal that shook the administration of former U.S. President Ronald Reagan when it became known that Israel, with U.S. approval, shipped arms to Iran in a proposed swap for prisoners in '1985. NBC said Israel hoped to use the November oil deal to free

political and economic sanctions imposed after the crackdown.

its soldiers and possibly Westerners held in Lebanon. It said Washington, anxious to free U.S. hostages believed held by maved pro-Iranian groups, had given its blessing. Israeli officials had refused comment, saying government policy was not to comment on oil deals. Israel's daily oil requirement is 170,000 barrets

#### Andreotti begins visit to Yemens

ROME (R) — Italian Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti Wednesday began a four-day visit to North and South Yemen, officials said Andreotti will spend two days in each country. Italian officials said Rome had particularly good relations with the two Yemens, maintained even when South Yemen was largely ostracised by the West in the late 1960s after independence from Britain in 1967. They said Andreotti would discuss with the leaders of the two countries the situation in the Gulf, the Middle East and the Horn of Africa, all areas that closely interest Italy. They said he would also discuss economic cooperation and trade, particularly increasing oil imports from North Yemen. The state energy corporation ENI is discussing with North Yemen a project to exploit natural gas deposits in the country, officials said.

#### israel sends aid to Romania

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel, voicing support for the Romanian uprising, sent a plane packed with more than six tonnes of medical supplies Wednesday for people wounded in the battles to over-throw executed President Nicolae Ceausescu. Health Minister Yaacov Tsur, the airlift organiser, said: "There is certainly in this a political expression of solidarity by Israel with what is happening in Romania and with the fight of the Romanian people for peace and democracy." Officials ascribed Israel's concern also to the 274,000 Jews of Romanian descent who live in Israel, the second largest immigrant community after Moroccans. The Hercules air force transport plane left for Romania with two doctors, who will deliver more than \$100,000 in supplies and advise the health ministry on additional needs. Foreign Minister Moshe Arens told parliament: "We in Israel are full of admiration for the Romanian people for their courage which led to a democratic revolution.

#### JORDAN TELEVISION Tel: 773111-19

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Bulletin supplied by the Department of

It will be partly cloudy and relatively cold. Winds will be light and variable becoming southeasterly moderate. In Acaba, winds will be northerly moder-..... 5/16 ..... 9/23 Aqaba.

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 15, Aqaba 22. Humidity readings: Amman 30 per cent. Alpha 40 per **USEFUL TELEPHONE** NUMBERS

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#### FOR THE TRAVELLER **QUEEN ALIA** INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information depart-ment at the Oueen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)53200-5, where it should always be verified. APPIVALS Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

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Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights

Other Flights (Terminai (2)

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PROGRAMME ONE

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Cabbage 120 / 60
Carrot 220 / 180
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Cucumbers (farse) 200 / 200
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oris programme eligious seminar ..... Feature filat tage from Owan 18:09 18:18 19:25 19:40 20:00 21:40 22:30 Programme reve-..... Jerash 89 News summary in Arabic PROGRAMME TWO .. La Grande Cabriole News in French Vews in Hebres . News in Arabic Mr. Belvedere 21:10 22:00 New cycle preview
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JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

Children program

Sports pro Religion

Religious programme Friday's prayer

PRAYER TIMES

### <sup>J</sup>a<sub>h.</sub> Ministry committed to press freedoms

MMAN (Petra) - Information nister Ibrahim Izzeddin Wed-"stressed the ministry's terest and commitment to dvancing the atmosphere of predom and democracy which enrounds Jordan's march in these sensitive circumstances. Speaking to the president and

members of the Jordan Press Association (JPA), who called at left 12 his office to congratulate him on inded his appointment, Izzeddin said hist the ministry is committed to his appointment, Izzeddin said that the ministry is committed to allow press freedoms and free-dom of expression and opinion in the various mass media.

He said the ministry believes in the need for providing freedoms to the mass media and stressed the importance of media cooperation to make this difficult experiment a successs. The minister stressed that this experiment needs to be handled carefully, honestly and responsibly.

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Izzeddin outlined, the important role the JPA can play in advocating the rights of its members and pledged the ministry's full support for the association. JPA president Hashem Khreisat conveyed the congratulations of the JPA members to Izzeddin on his appointment. Khreisat pointed out that Izzeddin's appointment coincided with the government's measures to rectify the situations of the press foundations and rescinding the economic security committee's decision, dissolving the elected board of directors of the press foundations in Jordan. Khreisat said the JPA will maintain objectivity and credibility in dealing with the new situations. He voiced the association's resolve to advance the journalism profession and to contribute towards giving it a greater role in tackling national and pan-Arab issues.



ACC PREMISES: Prime Minister Mudar Badran and Iraqi First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yassin Ramadan Wednesday open the General

Secretariat of the Arab Cooperation Council

### Independent bloc takes form in Parliament

By Mariam M. Shahin Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — In a stated attempt to form a coalition which is independent of any given "ideology or sectarian grouping," eight members of Parliament calling itself the independent bloc" was formed earlier this week.

The new bloc intends to approach legislative issues on a case-by-case basis without a defined platform. "Our goal is to serve the people without ascribing to any given ideology or existing political grouping, said one of the newly formed group's members, Deputy Mohammad Alawneh.

The bloc says it intends to deal with each issue according to subject matter and merit. "The aim is not to follow rigid

guidelines when dealing with issues but to be flexible in approaching each issue according to its own merits," Alawneh said. "This way we can rule out a dogmatic approach.

The bloc is open for all de-puties to join," he added. The members of the bloc are said to include Mohammad Alawneh, Jamal Sreireh, Atef Al Batoush, Ziad Abu Mahfouz, Mahmoud Huweimel, Mateer Bustanji, Salam Freihat and Awni

Six of the deputies ran as "Islamic" candidates in the Nov. 8 elections. The eight members of the group may vote as a bloc, but they say that they would not be rigid in disciplining their colleagues in the group since the bloc's stated aim is to be "flexible in thought and action."

The absence of a political ideology in binding the coalition could be seen as a distinctive development in Parliament since two other blocs already formed in the Lower House are both based on either a common or similar ideology or theology.

The Muslim Brotherbood

bloc, which had a common election platform, has 22 members in the Lower House. They were voted into Parliament as not only the largest but as the only bloc due in part to the absence of political parties, which were banned in 1957. The Brotherhood ran on a platform whose main slogan was "Islam is the solution" to all political, economic and social ills. So far they have voted as a bloc on almost all issues

brought before Parliament. The Brotherhood's support of an Islamist candidate. Yousef Moeideen, who is not a member of their bloc, for the speakership of the House in. November was seen as an initial test of their clout in Parliament. Their candidate was defeated by a vote of 44/36 by

Suleiman Arar. The deciding votes in the speakership elections were cast by the "Democratic Bloc." The coalition, which was formed after the parliamentarians took office, is based on a common or at least similar ideological base. Despite the lack of participation of formally-knit political parties in the elections, members of the Democratic Bloc were considered to be running as independents, nationalists or lef-

tists. The coalition membership is still fluctuating. Its present membership is 11 deputies according to the bloc's spokesman, deputy Fakhri Kawar. They have also voted as a bloc on most issues. although they seem to have less rigid voting behaviour when compared to the Brotherhood bloc.

Another bloc dubbed by two Jordanian Arabic dailies as a "national bloc" appears to be in the making. However, deputy Abdullah Nsour, who was reportedly forming the bloc, said that reports publishing names of members were incorrect and that the bloc's platform and membership were not yet decided. "Therefore, I can't say anything at this time," he told the Jordan Times.

#### **NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF**

ACC YOUTH THANK PRINCE: Jordanian, Iraqi, Egyptian and Yemeni youths taking part in the first youth gathering of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) countries have expressed gratitude to the efforts of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan concerning youth issues in the Arab World. In a cable they sent to Prince Hassan Wednesday, they expressed pride in the achievements Jordan has made under the Hashemite leadership. President of Yarmouk University Dr. Ali Mahafzah Wednesday received the participants of the gathering. Mahafzah explained the developments the university underwent since its establishment and discussed the relationship between university and the society. He added that training courses and lectures are held to meet the society's needs. (Petra)

CARE FOR DISABLED COURSE: Several women in Aqaba Wednesday received certificates of merit after completing a course on caring for the handicapped. The week-long course included lectures, seminars, and educational films on rehabilitation of the handicapped and means to enable them to integrate into society.

GEOGRAPHIC CENTRE GRADUATES: Several students Wednesday graduated from the Jordan National Geographic Centre after completing three-year courses in the field of topology. Among the graduates there were students from Qatar and Bahrain.

REFRESHER MILITARY COURSE: A new batch of students participating in a refresher military training course Wednesday graduated from the Kafrain public security training camp. Speeches were delivered on the importance of training and rehabilitating policemen. The graduates gave sports and military performances during the celebration. (Petra)

POSTER CONTEST RESULTS: The Aramex International Courier's fine arts committee convened Dec. 25 and selected the winners of the Aramex poster contest that was open to all young students of major schools in Amman. After a thorough assessment of all entries, the poster by Lana G. Tseganoff of Ahliya School (CMS) was chosen for the first prize. Ahmad Zaidan of Al Manhal International School and George Nasrawi of Terra Santa School won the second and the third prizes respectively. The contest was organised as part of Aramex's continuing efforts to encourage talents and sports in Jordan. (J.T.)

AMC EXPORT-IMPORT PLAN: The Agricultural Marketing Corporation (AMC) has released its plan for the export of fresh fruits and vegetables for January 1990. According to the plan all kinds of fruits and vegetables can be exported while imports are limited to sage, dates, onion, thyme, and apple. (Petra)

AID FOR ROMANIA: The newly set-up Jordanian Public Committee for Supporting the Romanian People Wednesday made an appeal to the Jordanian people, especially those who studied in Romania, to give a helping hand to the Romanian people. After a public rally held at the Professional Associations Complex the committee appealed to Jordanians to donate blood at the University of Jordan Hospital and present their donations, cash or medical supplies, at the following centres: The Jordan Medical Association, the Jordan Engineers Association or the Jordan Dentists Association. (J.T.)

### WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

#### **EXHIBITIONS**

\* As art exhibition by artists from Jordan and other Arab countries at Al Wasiti Gallery, Plaza Hotel.

The youths art exhibition at the Spanish Cultural Centre.

The Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) youths art exhibition at the Royal Cultural Centre.

\* An art exhibition by Iyad Al Masri and Queem Al Samir at the Housing Bank Complex.

\* An art exhibition by Shaher Abu Ghazaleh at the Royal \* A graphic art exhibition at the Soviet Cultural Centre.

#### LECTURE

\* A lecture by the Middle East Report chief editor on "the Palestinian intifads and the policy of the U.S." at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation — 7:90 p.m.

## Societies help badly treated animals

By Hind-Lara Mango Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — It has become a common sight in Amman to see a dead donkey lying on the side of a road, or a cat splattered all over the street. This has become so much part of the everyday scene that one sees while going to work that one does not think much about it. But what does happen to these animals? Who carries them off and where to? Sometimes they are just left to adorn the scenery until they disappear naturally via decay.

However, there are people who make it their duty to see that animals are treated humanely. Such societies exist all over the world and include the Society for the Protection of Animals in North Africa (SPA-NA), and the Brooke Hospital for Animals originally established in Egypt.

Such societies are primarly concerned with the well-being of animals and send representatives to all over the world. It is for such societies that Kan Zaman hosted a charity gala this month. It was to aid SPANA and the Brooke Hospital for Animals in Petra. Like most charity events, this bazaar offered its guests the usual Christmas gifts and games for both children and

#### 'Ignorance'

Chris Larter, representative of both societies, displayed pic-tures of animals being treated by SPANA and the Brooke Hospital in Jordan. The former was established in 1923 by Briton Frances Kate and her daughter. The latter was founded in the 1930s in Egypt by Dorothy Brooke. "Both societies now operat-

ing in Jordan aim at treating injured animals in the Kingdom. Dressers Mazin Qaisi and Khalid Salman, and I offer help to people who cannot afford to take their animals to clinics," Larter said. She asserted that 90 per cent of animal injuries occurring in Jordan were due to the owners' ignorance. She had a lot of unpleasant stories to tell and there was one in particular which was a common occurrance. Donkey and borse owners tend to tie their animals with wire because the animal eats away at the rope and runs away. To avoid this animals are secured tightly together, or individually with pieces of wire.

Common wires are twisted together to make a thick ropelike contraption which is

wound around the horse'smuzzle. Consequently, a horse has its muzzle scraped raw.

Other everyday practices inchide tying donkies by the foot to a stump or tree and the metal or rope is tied so tightly that it usually rubs and eats away at the animal's leg. As a result, infection such as gangrene sets in.

#### Attitudes

The attitudes of people towards help offered by animal societies were tinged with scepticism, according to Larter. "At first people thought we were a bit nutty, but when they saw that we meant them no harm they started to come to she said. SPANA operates a mobile

clinic. Larter herself got in-volved in this society through driving horses to show-jumping competitions. Not a veterinarian by profession, she became something close to one due to her experience with animals. So, along with her assistants, she makes her rounds looking for animals in

Oaisy and Salman were both sent to England, Tunisia, and Morocco to specialise in animal care. Every month they and Larter check on animals in four regions of the Kingdom. Week one is spent in Salt,

the second week in Wadi Al Seer and neighbouring villages, the third week in the Jordan Valley, and the last week in Ailoun and Madaba. Larter goes to the Brooke clinic in Petra every two days. Many horses there are in bad condition due to maltreatment, she says. She explains that the young boys owning the horses often gallop them at full speed to find customers. When the

#### borse gets what is known as colic (pain in the stomach).

horses are sweaty and out of

breath, their owners give them

cold water to drink. Hence a

Means of livelihood Salman said that to some people an animal is the sole means of livelihood. In the agricultural sector in particular a lot of farmers depend on livestock for plowing the land. Salman added that these people, most of the time, do not have the money to treat an animal's injuries, "for they themselves do not even have shoes to wear."

'If we see a donkey having rough textured material on its back as a substitute for a saddie, we advise softer material."

not, the owner will say that he will do it, and end up not doing it. So we provide instant help by giving blankets. Sometimes our help comes too late, and the donkey's back is rubbed raw and infection has already

Qaisy said that a lot of the animals are simply exhausted. "During the summer they are driven to work from sunrise till sunset," he asserted. Owners are advised to cut the task shorter, but when one depends on a sole donkey for his livelihood, one cannot afford to stop, Qaisy explained. A tradition which causes

animals a lot of pain is: If a horse is sick, it is branded on its back with a sizzling hot iron. The belief is that this will take the evil out of the animal's body, and thus it will recover. The consequences of such actions lead to intense pain for the horse, sometimes paralysis, or even

Larter has been in the country since 1986, and still she does not understand some of the phenomena that she sees. She is very much upset to see children throwing stones at horses and at baby donkies in particular.

She recounted an incident outside her window early one morning: Some boys were. beating a donkey so, she went out and told them to stop it. The next morning she saw them again, but with the donkey lying on the ground. On reaching the boys she found that they had cut the animal's ears off; there was a circus going on nearby, and the boys. wanted to feed the lions. She immediately telephoned Dr. Basel Arafat, the director of the project. The animal was old, and there was no refuge where it could be put - it was put to sleep.

#### Refuge for animals

Many animals that are either too old, or injured in such a way that they cannot work are put to sleep. Qaisy explained that they are working on setting-up refuge for such animals. But funds are needed, and revenues from this initial charity event are hopefully going to help. Proceeds will be go into buying collars, bridles and the like. The Brooke Hospital. strongly supported by Her Royal Highness Princess Alia, had earlier started its activities with a fundraising horse show.

Senate speaker meets Chinese delegation

### Lawzi stresses need for peace in the Middle East

AMMAN (Petra) — Upper Ahmad Al Lawzi Wednesday stressed the need for finding a just and peaceful solution to the Palestine question in accordance with United Nations Security Council resolutions, which call for the exchange of land for peace and an end to the Israeli occupation. The resolutions recognise the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and the establishment of their own state on their national soil.

Lawzi was speaking at a meet-ing with a Chinese delegation, headed by deputy minister of radio, television and cinema, currently on a visit to Jordan Lawzi discussed the Israeli occupation of the Arab territories and the Palestinian resistance to the occupation authorities.

He called on the delegation

members to expose the Israeli practices against the Palestinian people and explain the Palestinian tragedy to the Chinese people, which account for one fifth of the world population.

Lawzi said that there are two

kinds of colonialism today, Israeli colonialism and South African colonialism. Lawzi said inhuman Israeli practices against the Palestinian people, which include killings, torture, demolition of houses, closure of schools and universities and war of starvation against the Palestinian people, are against human rights conventions concerning the protection of civilians under occupation.

Lawzi described the Chinese delegation's visit to the region as China is one of the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council.

He said that Jordan, which believes in freedom, justice, democracy and self determination, calls on the Chinese people and Parliament to play a role in achieving peace and justice in the Middle East.

Head of the Chinese delegation conveyed to Lawzi best wishes and congratulation from the on his reappointment as speaker of the Parliament's Upper House.

He stressed his country's support for holding an international peace conference on the Middle East under the auspieces of the U.N. Security Council. He added that his country supports the legitimate struggle of the Palestinian people and appreciates the extremely important because efforts being made by His Majesty King Hussein to establish peace in the Middle East and the

### **Cabinet approves Dead** Sea tourist hotel project

AMMAN (Petra) — The cabinet Tuesday approved a recommendation made by the investment promotion committee on setting up a tourist botel in the Dead Sea area, with a capital of JD 550,000. The proposed hotel would have 194 rooms.

At a meeting under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Mudar Badran, the cabinet also approved three other projects including cinema production, producing printing ink and producing roof ceramics. The cabinet consi-

economic projects. The cabinet also took a deci-

Jordanian delegations to a meet- the Ministry of Agriculture ings on crime control to be held in secretary-general. Vienna under the auspices of the United Nations Feb. 5 and to the ral Development's (IFAD) board tion.

dered these projects as endorsed of governors, which will be held in Rome Jan. 24.

The Jordanian delegation to sion exempting the electronic the Vienna meeting on combat-switchboard and its components ting crime will be headed by the at Agaba hospital from all cus- Public Security Department toms and any additional duties. Director Major-General Fadel During Tuesday's session, the Ali Fuheid. The delegation to cabinet decided to compose the IFAD meeting will be headed by

IFAD's board of governors will discuss a number of issues, in-International Fund for Agricultu- cluding environmental protec-

#### **British diplomat underlines U.N. Security Council role** more cooperative spirit at New

AMMAN (J.T.) — The U.N. Security Council, which has assumed a strong role in international affairs in light of the improved relations between the superpowers and emerging world consensus that global solutions are needed to address global problems, should take the lead in efforts to settle the Middle East conflict, according to Sir Crispin Tickell, Britain's permanent representative to the U.N.

In a lecture he delivered Wednesday at the International Affairs Institute in Amman, Sir and it has also ensured that Crispin, author of "Climatic Change and World Affairs (1977 and 1985)," noted that the five permanent members of the Security Council had begun to work together "in an unprecedented fashion" to fulfill their responsibilities under the U.N. charter and pointed out that no ceasefire could have been possible in the Gulf war and no settlement could have been possible in Namibia had it not been for such cooperation.

Following is a summary of his

The Security Council is the most effective part of the United Nations system. Its activities reflect the evolution of the United Nations itself: the East/West polarity which led to paralysis; the North/South polarity which was little better; and now the non-aligned countries exercise a been at the U.N. post since 1987.

York which is characteristic of the United Nations today. Three factors now stand out: Wider acceptance of the need for global solutions to global problems; greater readiness to abandon confrontation for cooperation; and the cooperative attitudes and policies of the Soviet Union.

Paradoxically, one of the main strengths of the council is the veto power of the five permanent members. It has ensured that the council is a serious organisation. genuine international consensus international community as a whole. Such consensus has made possible the creation of agreed frameworks for dealing with particular problems: for example Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 on the Middle East; Resolution 435 on Namibia, and Resolution 598 on the Iran-Iraq

Recently the five permanent members have at last begun to work together in unprecedented fashion to fulfil their responsibilities under the charter. Without them the Iran-Iraq ceasefire and the Namibia settlement would have been impossible. But the five cannot attempt, even if they

the permanent and the nonpermanent members is indispens-

For the future let us hope that the five can turn their attention to the Middle East, and generally extend their agenda. In the past the negative power of the five was vital. In the future the positive power of the five may be still more important.

The council should also pay more attention to preventive diplomacy (in other words to anticipate rather than react to international crises); it should allow is required before action by the greater scope for the secretary general; and it should develop its

peace-keeping functions. It may even have to develop peace-keeping enforcement as well. At a time when conflicts in one area can rapidly become conflicts in another area, the world needs the best controlling mechanism that can be achieved. The Security Council, like the world it is meant to protect, is the

only one we have got.

Crispin is considered an authority on climate change and is an unofficial advisor on the subject to the British government. He has a long history in the diplomatic corps, including chef de cabinet to the president of the wished to do so, to run the European Commission and Security Council. Together the ambassador to Mexico, and has

#### PLO

(Continued from page 1)

officials. For the PLO, the confrontation with the U.S. entered "a critical stage" as Palestinian offi-cials privately blamed U.S. pressnres for the failure of most Arab foreign ministers to show up. The message, from the PLO point of view, was clear: "Washington was seeking to undermine the PLO's standing and was still seeking a substitute for the PLO."

"After one year of dialogue, the Americans are still looking for the representative of the Pal people. With whom have they been talking for the last year? With ghosts? asked a frustrated Arafat.
"If it suits them they can keep on looking," he told this writer shortly before the PLO delivered its reply to Baker's plan.

What frustrated the PLO the

most, was not that they no longer had a direct channel to Washington, but that the organisation was "not allowed" to play a plublic role. "Its was not bad enough that we could not directly convey our reply to Washington but the worst was that we were not allowed to even claim that we had a reply," a PLO official said in reference to Washington's repeated announce-ments that it was waiting for an Egyptian response."
Thus, from the Palestinian view-

oint, instead of the dialogue being a starting point for relations between the U.S. and the PLO, Washington is aiming to have a third party (i.e. Egypt) to represent the PLO one year after starting the dialogue.

"They (the Americans) can im-

pose channels and avoid a direct dialogue, but if they think that any party can bring a Palestinian delegation to the negotiating table without PLO approval all they will be doing is just trying," a Palesti-nian official said.



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#### Hard earned confidence

THE GOVERNMENT of Mudar Badran is moving fast to translate its promises into deeds and thus swiftly earning its way to win the cherished and coveted vote of confidence of the Parliament on Dec. 39. The bold decision to phase out 50 per cent of the Martial Law regime in the country and promising to phase out the remaining parts is the best proof yet that Prime Minister Modar Badran and his team are more than serious to lift martial law in the shortest time possible. There is now an irrefutable evidence that the grip of martial law regime over the country and people is on the way out in a dramatic yet irrevocable style. The people of Jordan have now a firm reason to rejoice over Tuesday's decision of the cabinet and to begin the new year with renewed confidence that their country is, after all, heading to operational democracy in the most concrete and meaningfui manner.

Equally important and relevant is the decision of Prime Minister Modar Badran's government to humanise the eventful 1988 decision to sever administrative and legal ties with West Bank. As hitherto interpreted and applied, that giant national decision became a big burden on the Pakestinian people in the West Bank and gave cause for the false belief that some of the implications of that decision have weakened the steadfastness and resolve of the Pales: mians under occupation to wage their intifada for as long as necessary. As this negative construction of the 1988 decision coald not be farther from the truth, Prime Minister Badran and his cabinet moved fast to examine ways and means to rectify the negative applications of the 1988 decision and in such a way as to humanise its effects. As the peoples of the West Bank and the East Bank were, are and will always be one people, the decision of the government to rectify all the shortcomings of the 1988 nationalistic decision is a blessing that the Palestinian people in the occupied territories will surely appreciate and glorify.

Acting in these directions the government of Mudar Badran has given the country and people the finest example of Arab nationalism that is unimpeded by self-defeating trends of sectionalism or factionalism or even confessionism. Again what better way is there for the country to begin the new year and what better way is there to reward our struggling people in the occupied territories than to phase out martial law regime from their midst and give the West Bank and its people a more breathing space from which to continue to wage their intifada till liberation is achieved.

#### Jordan Press Editorials

Al Ra'i Arabic daily newspaper Wednesday hailed a decision by the government of Prime Minister Mudar Badran to limit the jurisdiction of the military court and to grant more powers to civilian courts. The paper said that the decision in addition to the formation of a committee to study the humanitarian and personal implications on the Palestinian people resulting from severing ties with the West Bank has been welcomed by the Jordanian people and the their representatives in Parliament. The paper said that with these decisions, the government has thus responded favourably to the Parliament members' demands and went a long way towards completely ending martial law in Jordan. Indeed the creation of a committee to help deal with the consequences of Jordan's severing of ties with the West Bank is bound to provide further support and backing for the Palestinian people, and enhance their steadfastness in the face of Israeli atrocities and repression, the paper added. It said that the government has proved to be committed to the promises it had made to Parliament, and for this it deserves appreciation and support. The paper said that the Jordanian people can only express their pride in what is happening in their country towards bolstering the path for democracy and freedom.

A columnist in Al Ra'i Arabic daily discusses the ongoing rapprochement between Cairo and Damascus, and says that it is beneficial in more than one respect despite the fact that the leaderships in Syria and Egypt hold divergent views on Arab affairs. Mishmond Rimawi notes that Syria and Egypt do not see eye to eye over dealings with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), over the Middle East peace process and in their relations with Iraq. While Damascus seeks to convene an international Middle East conference, Cairo advocates ample preparations for such conference, through a series of preliminary steps that should be taken to pave the way for the same conference, says the writer. Rimawi believes though that Syrian-Egyptian rapprochement will eventually help difuse tension in Lebanon and lead to a permanent settlement. He says based on bilateral cooperation during the disturbances in Lebanon of 1958, the two countries can work out a formula that would end the conflict among the warring parties and preserve the country's territorial integrity and independence. Furthermore, Rimawi says, the two countries can contribute positively towards bolstering solidarity among the Arab countries and can recreate a united front in the face of Israel's intransigence.

Sawt Al Sheab daily stressed the fact that as long as the Arabs do not possess sufficient power to stand up to Israel, they can not regain their rights and ensure the freedom of the Palestinian people under Israeli rule. The paper said the fact that the Palestine problem remains without solution, is largely due to the weakness in the Arab ranks and the continued drain on Arab resources due to internal conflicts and lack of coordination among Arab leaders. The paper referred to a declaration made recently by the PLO in which it stated openly that Washington constituted the main obstacle in the path of Middle East peace. The paper said that though this declaration came late yet it is right and should open the eyes of the Arab countries to the fact that they should not count on any of the world powers to help them regain their right but should rather rely on their intrinsic force.

### Bush faces choices in newest Panama dilemma

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Manuel Antonio Noriega's decision to seek asylum at the Vatican's embassy in Panama City forces President George Bush into the thicket of diplomacy and international law in pursuit of the deposed dictator.

"Now it's up to the lawyers and the diplomats," summed up Defence Secretary Dick Cheney, whose troops tried out failed to capture the clusive dictator in

more than four days of searching. When Noriega drove up to the Vatican embassy in Panama City on Christmas Eve, Bush accomplished a central goal of the invasion he ordered last week: Removing the indicted drug trafficker from all power in Panama.

But how Bush, Panama's U.S. backed-government, the Vatican and other nations handle the next step could determine not only Noriega's fate, but the future of the strategically placed isthmus for years to come.

U.S. interests appear to be best served by Noriega's speedy removal from the Papal nunciature, where he is protected by diplomatic immunity and by the spotlight of international attention. As long as he stays, attention could be diverted from U.S. efforts to restore order to the devastated country.

The White House said Sunday it still hopes to bring Noriega to justice. He was indicted in Florida on federal charges in 1988. But the Vatican, which has offered haven to Noriega's foes in

recent months, would have to reverse centuries of practice and diplomatic principle to hand the general to the United States against his will.

Asked if a simple turnover were foreseeable, Vatican spokesman Joaquin Navarro said, well. I don't think so. There

isn't an extradition treaty or any-

Bush, who has held several diplomatic jobs in his career, presumably understands the complexities well. The United States has been sheltering Chinese dissident Fang Lizhi in the U.S. embassy in Peking for many months despite Chinese demands to hand him over.

Bush could ask the government of U.S.-backed President Guillermo Endara to demand Noriega be handed over by the Vatican. But Endara has already said his country is forbidden by its constitution to extradite any Panamanian citizen to the United

Another possible solution is to remove Noriega from Panama to third country. The United States set a precedent for such a scenario when it negotiated with Noriega in 1988 after he was indicted in Florida, and again as recently as October.

State Department officials were apparently prepared to drop their demand for bringing Noriega to the United States if he agreed to resign his posts. Later, the U.S. upped its ante and de-manded that Noriega leave Spain, Cuba and the Domini-

can Republic — where Noriega has a daughter and some real estate — have been mentioned as possible exiles. Until now, Noriega has refused to go.

But in any deal Noriega works out, he would likely demand a promise that he not be extradited to the United States. That could create a problem

with Spain which has a 1970 extradition treaty with the United Foreign Minister Francisco Fernandez Ordonez said Monday

thast Spain would not be a conve-

asylum because he would have to be turned over to U.S. authorities on drug-related charges.

nient place for Noriega to seek

An exile closer to home could prove troublesome, if it left Noriega close enough to foment resistance to the new Panamanian government among former loyal-

ists of his regime.
"Part of the deal would have to be that he promises not to interfere in Panamanian politics," said James Goodby, a professor of diplomacy at Georgetown University. "The farther away be goes, the better."

Even if Noriega were brought to the United States, other complications could stand in the way

Raymond Takiff, Noriega's attorney in Miami, said prosecution would result in sensitive information being divulged about Noriega's long association with the CIA. Federal prosecutors familiar with the case say they believe a trial could go forward. The nature of the sensitive information could include material relating to Bush himself. According to Kevin Buckley,

who is writing a book for Simon and Schuster about Noriega, the deposed Panamanian leader and Bush first met in 1976. Bush headed the CIA at the time, and

> In 1983, Bush visited Noriega in Panama and reportedly hinted

ded his country's intelligence ser-

turn a blind eye to his drug profit saffii laundering, Buckley said. Ruch has denied making any such size be

Noriega also met in 1985 and and aboard a yacht with former White House aide Oliver North to dis- # # ! cuss help for the contras, accord- # Aya Buckley said Noriega comman-

ing to Buckley. grany
"HE (Noriega) knows where a st 252111 lot of skeletons are buried in a pourn Central America and some of suity them may be very close to Bush's 1,1 mean that if the general helped the office," said William Schneider, a liber A U.S.-backed Nicaraguan contra senior fellow at the American states would Enterprise Institute.

### Iraq gets around high-tech ban to boost missile industry There are other research and

By Ed Blanche The Associated Press

NICOSIA — Iraq's drive to build an advanced arms industry is accelerating, much of it due to high technology acquired despite Western efforts to carb East missile buildup.

Iraq announced on Dec. 8 that it had launched a 48-ton, threestage rocket capable of putting a satellite in space, and had testfired two surface-to-surface missiles with a range of 2,000 kilometres.

The appouncement took analysts by surprise and heightened speculation that the region could soon be seeing a new missile arms race.

Industrialised states, seeking to curb missile proliferation in the Middle East, Latin America and Asia, have sought to carb the sale of sensitive equipment to Third World countries. Affected by the curbs are state-of-the-art computers, guidance systems, heat-resistant materials such as carboncarbon and computer-controlled machinery.

But Iraq, like some other nations, has exploited loopholes in controls imposed by the United States, Britain, West Germany, France, Italy, Canada and Japan in a 1987 agreement known as the Missile Technology control

Along with its legitimate purchases, analysts say, Iraq has evaded technology restrictions by seeking help from other Third

By Alison Smale

The Associated Press

VIENNA - Romania's re-

volution against Communism,

unlike those in other Eastern

European countries, has ex-

ploded in violence that has left

uncounted thousands dead and a

watching world helpless to halt

European countries rising up in the name of democracy this year

paid such a cost in blood.

None of the other Eastern

But no other country had a

Nicolae Ceausescu, whose bizar-

re personality cult trumpeted the

er" while imposing ever more

punishing conditions on his

Ceausescu and his wife Elena

were summarily executed on

Christmas Day after a secret trial

on charges of "particularly grave

crimes" against the people,

During their 24-year reign, dis-

sent was ruthlessly repressed by

his Securitate, a huge and sinister network of at least 70,000 people.

trialisation programmes brought

Debt repayment and indus-

Bucharest Radio said.

'golden era" of a "beloved lead-

the carnage.

military technology and by forg-ing close ties with Western companies that possess the technology Iraq wants. Several investigations are under way of Western companies that allegedly made deals with Iraq in violation of xport restrictions

Iraq, Iran, Syria, Saudi Arabia

and Libya are all missile powers now. All except Libya have weapons capable of hitting Israel. With superpower detente dimimishing the threat of a U.S.-Soviet conflict, analysts fear the most dangerous missile threat now is posed by spread in the Third World of rockets capable of

carrying nuclear or chemical war-One of the key weapons in President Saddam Hussein's effort to make Iraq a major regional power is a two-stage ballistic missile, the Condor 2, capable

of carrying nuclear or chemical warheads to 1,000 kilometres. Iraq has been widely reported to be developing it with Argenti-

na and Egypt since 1984. "Iraq's arms industry is quite advanced now and Iraqi President Saddam Hussein is certainly determined to build his missiles, said Hans-Heino Kopietz, a Middle East analyst with London's International Institute for Strategic Studies.

"From what we've been able to determine, the Iraqis are capable of producing Condor 2, but they still lack a reliable guidance system. They've been trying to get one from the Germans," he said in a telephone interview.

Repressed hatred leads

to violence in Romania

protest disappeared mysteriously.

file in society, faced prison, men-

house arrest.

the Soviet Bloc.

tal hospital, internal exile or

Laws mandated the reporting

of every unauthorised conversa-

tion with a foreigner. Every type-

writer — a potential weapon in

the war of words — had to be

registered. And censorship was

Dissident poet Ana Blandiana,

member of the National Salva-

tion Committee that is now trying

to run Romania, wrote a poem

about someone she called "Scal-

lion." It was seen as mocking

The Ceausescus regarded every

aspect of public life as their pri-

vate property. In 1966, Ceanses-

cu decreed that every Romanian

family should have four children.

a standard increased two years

ago to five children per family.

were regularly subjected to gyne-

cological examinations at work to

ensure that they were not hiding

any pregnancy they might try to

Few complied, but women

Ceausescu, and banned.

far tighter than anywhere else in

Intellectuals, with a higher pro-

family. Workers who dared to counterintelligence who defected

Some analysts believe Iraq may T-72 that included systems de-be able to test fire a Condor 2 veloped by Iraqi engineers, and prototype in the next year or two. Israel claims Iraq already has an accurate guidance system. Even so, one Israeli source told the Associated Press earlier this

way from being deployed." Meanwhile, the Iraqis are negotiating with Brazil's space agency for a \$50-million satellite technology deal, analysts say.

that Condor 2 was "a k

Ozilio Silva, director fo the Brazilian agency and a former president of Brazil's Embraer Aircraft Manufacturer, visited Baghdad earlier this year and a team of Iraci scientists was in Rio de Janiero last May.

The French, Iraq's second biggest arms supplier after the Soviet Union, sent an aerospace industry team to Baghdad in November to discuss cooperation. Diplomats in Baghdad said this included high technology transfer.

Iraq's drive to build up its own defence industry, like Iran's was spurred by the eight-year Gulf war. It was the first recent conflict in which the belligerents hammered each others' cities with missiles, a nightmare vision of future Third World wars.

Until recently, most military analysts scoffed at Iraq's claims it could produce advanced weapons

But the Iraqis unveiled a wide range of technology at the Baghdad arms fair in April. Among the weapons on display were the Lion of Babylon tank, a locally assembled version of the Soviet

to the United States in 1978,

wrote in memoirs published last

year that Elena Ceausescu lis-

tened every week to tapes made

at her children's apartments and

All in all, life in Romania was

an endless round of crushing rep-

ression unparalleled since the

days of the Soviet Dictator Josef

In other East Bloc countries,

even hard-line leaders refused to

wage the kind of all-out wat it

would have taken to stop the

showed he was willing to slaugh-

ter people indiscriminately to stay

in power, and the Securitate

fought ferociously for its own

The National Salvation Com-

mittee is appealing to the popula-

But on Sunday, before the ex-

ecution of Ceausescu, a discus-

sion of the most suitable punish-

ment reflected the hatred of a

people. Most said even death was

"Ceausescu was a bastard,"

tion not to take revenge.

But in Romania, Ceausescu

popular demand for reform.

the homes of high officials.

several tactical missiles apparently modelled on Soviet systems. Iraqi officials have defended Baghdad's drive to develop its own arms industry, citing the threat from Iran ( year's ceasefire in the Gulf war.

Traci's foreign minister, Tareq Aziz, declared in New York on Dec. 14: "We have to take into consideration for our own defence purposes that our country is still being thretened by Iran. We're in a situation of no war and

"We have to do whatever we can to provide the necessary defensive means to defend our country if the other side thinks again of the renewal of hostili-

Iraqi officials decline to discuss

technology it needs anywhere it In August, the U.S. Federal

Reserve discovered that the had extended unauthorised credit military industries complex is lo-February 1988. Baghdad received as much as \$1.7 billion worth of credit from the bank before the affair was uncovered. Italy's treasury minister, Guido Carli, has confirmed that some of the credits were used to purcahse strategic materials and militaryrelated equipment. Western intelligence officials

believe much of the sensitive equipment went to the top-security Saad 16 Research Complex south of Baghdad, where work on Condor 2 has been carried out. The complex is also believed to be Iraq's purchasing network, but used for chemical weapons desay Baghdad will get hold of the velopment.

development facilities at Al mass pr Anbar, west of Baghdad, where the satellite rocket was launched Atlanta, Georgia, branch of Italy's Banca Nazionale de Lavoro mountainous north. A major

> Western officials and diplomats \*4 will be said the acquisitions were made and only largely through a European- 1 RWolt based consortium of 16 com- taken 7 panies based in Zug, Switzerland, Time and Monte Carlo.

The group organised procure and v ment of missile technology and a de Components for Iraq's technical kneing corps for special projects, known hinarch as Techcorp. It was established two years

ago within the Ministry of Industry and Military Industrialisation while for headed by Gen. Hussein Kamel, Hussein's son-in-law. He has overall charge of developing that Irag's arms industry.

### Israel awaits fruits of Gorbachev's perestroika

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — Mikhail Gorbachev's perestroika. which has already changed the face of Europe, may soon transform the character of Israel through a mass exodus of Soviet

Israelis anxiously await a wave of up to 300,000 Soviet Jewish immigrants over the next three years. More than 2,000 arrived in November — the same number as in the whole of 1988.

The influx could have a huge impact on the demography and politics of Israel and the occupied territories. Israel's population is only four million, including 650,000 Arabs. "There is no question that hun-

dreds of thousands will arrive, Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir said last month. "The number of Jews who will want to leave the Soviet Union will soon reach 1.000.000. Former Soviet dissident Natan

Sharansky said Israel was witnessing the biggest exodus of Jews since the inquisition exiled them from Spain in 1492. Government officials say the

monthly immigration figure could double early next year when direct flights between Moscow and Tel aviv begin. Faced by what the Israeli

media describes as anti-semitism and a deteriorating economy, Soviet Jews are taking advantage of the Kremlin's most liberal emigration policies since the early 1970s to leave in increasing num-

"It is a very hard life in the Soviet Union for everyone, but for Jews especially," said Zenovy Niesenbaum, an electrical engineer from Odessa. said Maria Stoica, a worker in

Igor Petrov, a 33-year-old Rus-

his Jewish wife to escape the from Kiev. hardships of the Soviet Union but "You she will try to emigrate to the United

This is the only country I can come to. It is impossible to live in the Soviet Union now. Soviet society is seriously ill and in the future it will become more dangerous," Petrov said.

Until October the vast majority of Soviet Jews headed for the United States in search of a more peaceful and prosperous life. But new U.S. quotas limit the number allowed entry to 40,000 per year, leaving them no choice but Israel.

Housing Minister David Levy has proposed settling the Soviet immigrants among the 1.7 million Palestinians of the occupied territories who have been waging a revolt for two years.

Hardline Israeli leaders have contended Israel could keep the occupied territories with a wave of Jewish immigration that would balance the Arab population.

"It goes without saying that if you add half a million Jews who are not expected from the normal birth rate, it has an enormous demographic impact," said a senior official with the quasigovernmental Jewish Agency who clined to be named.

Palestinians are concerned Israel will move Soviet Jews into the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Government officials say the im-

Most Soviet Jews become hardline nationalists on arrival in the Jewish state. This could push a right-leaning electorate even further towards tougher stances on territorial "concessions,"

"I support Israel's movement against Palestinians. I can say (PLO leader) Yasser Arafat is a bandit and I support the politics of Shamir," said Sasha Taratur

"You should know that everybody sitting here has ngnt-wing views," he added, pointing to 228 to Ayar Soviet Jews who arrived on a but had and

Soviet Jews, mostly highly-edu- N Som cated professionals, are also expected to have an impact on issued's economy and column Israel's economy and culture.

Arriving mainly on flights from Budapest and Bucharest, the newcomers are greeted at Tel Aviv airport by Israelis dancing the legich horn and civil and the legich horn and civil airport by Israelis dancing Aviv airport by Israeus usuand the Jewish hora and singing Heb

Government workers hand out bouquets and distribute food and refreshments while the jet-lagged newcomers wait up to seven hours for processing of immigration papers.

Officials of the Jewish Agency expect a bureaucratic nightmare as the number coming to Israel rises but say no one will be turned away. They predict up to 300,000

arrivals over the next three years. Rejecting criticism that the country is ill-prepared for the mass immigration, Peretz insisted there would be enough housing but conceded more jobs would

have to be found. In November a governm committee formulated a \$2 billion plan to absorb 100,000 Jews over the next three years but officials

say it must already be revised. The money is to pay for build migrants are free to settle where ing 25,000 new apartments and renovating 5,000 others, job training and creating new earployment, education and infrat-

> The government pays the im-migrants' rent, provides a month ly allowance and Hebrew lessons and helps them find work.

We won't make any quotes and we will absorb every lew said Jewish Agency spokesman.

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### **Focus on People**

### Father of the revolution

By Mariam M. Shahin

WHILE many people all over the world are celebrating Christmas and enjoying their holidays, some are "liberating" their countries from the rule of tyrants and others are defending themselves from the invasion of foreign powers. In the Arab World, the Christmas mood in 1989 seems to be mixed. While some Arab countries are making moves to melt frosty relations that have prevailed for over a decade others still find themselves living in undeclared war zones. Their futures uncertain, their paths to prosperity obviously long and difficult, the peoples of Lebanon and Palestine, both of whom have relatively large Christian communities, did not have a very merry Christmas in 1989.

Living in times marked by what seem to be never-ending conflicts, where, in the words of the late Samuel Becket, only decay and death are certain, the Palestinian Christian community has exemplified itself with a policy of "samud" - steadfastness. Scread over five continents, their community spirit has survived over a hundred years of immigration, and several wars which displaced thousands. This week Father Ibrahim Ayad, known to many simply as the priest from Palestine, speaks to Focus on e about his views on the future of the Palestinians in general and Palestine's Christians in particular.

As one of two priests serving on the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Central Council and the Palestine National Council — the parliament in exile, Ayad occupies a special place in the ranks of the revolution. He is presently the de facto Palestinian ambassador to South America and, as a member of the Catholic order, enjoys good relations with both the Vatican and other centres of Catholicism in Europe and elsewhere. He sees the Christian community in Palestine as an integral part of a greater whole whose identity is in no way blurred by its

religious affiliation. "This has been our home since time immemorial. We are Arab Christians. The Arab World is our home and Jerusalem, Bethlehem and Nazareth are our centres of worship. Why should we be different from the other Arabs who were driven out. We are not any different," he asserts.

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Father Ayad is pessimistic about a solution to the conflict in Palestine any time soon. "Not only are the forces in Israel sorking against peace and with the immigrants from the Soviet Union pouring in, we still have to have a united Arab world. Without unity among the Arabs, (I don't mean verbal support, of course, I mean actual support) Palestine will remain in turmoil," says Father Ayad. "The only ray of hope we have had for years is libe intifacts.

Although almost all Arab countries have expresed their solid support for the Palestinian people, the intifada and the leadership of the PLO, many Arabs seem weary of the Palestine issue that appears to some to be never ending. The weariness seems to be expressed in the lack of actual support that the Arab countries professed to give but according to many reliable Palestinian sources never gave. In Algiers Arab summit in June 1988 several Arab states promised to donate a combined amount of \$43 million in support of the Palestinian uprising, according to Father Ayad "the intifada never saw any of that help."

While many Arab states face huge foreign debts and other economic difficulties of their own and are therefore unlikely donor states, others who don't have such difficulties seem to be no more entinesiastic about helping. "For now, it looks like the intified will have to stay anye through the support of Palestinian resources only," says Father Ayad.

The revolutionary priest was born in the now famous town of Beit Sahour 79 years ago. The Ayoubs are members of one of the towns five 'hamulehs' or clans who trace their origins to the Ghassanides, the Arab Christian tribe who originated in south Arabia and who "fought along side with Salahedin Al Ayoubi against the Crusaders," according to Father Ayad.

After being ordained as a Catholic priest in 1937, his superior, the Patriarch Louise Barlossina, encouraged him to study law, which he did at the Law School of Jerusalem where he was classmates with future Palestinian personalities such as Anwar Al Khatib. Subsequent to his graduation, Father Ayad found himself responsible for all Christian juristic affairs in Ramallah, at a time all personal matters were under the exclusive jurisdiction of religious courts. While serving in his post in Ramallah, Father Ayad founded the Ahlia School which is a major boys school in the town to this day. His aim had been to open a school for those who could not afford to go to the more prestigious schools but still get a good education. "There was a lot of opposition but when you have samud you can overcome a lot of opposition," he said. Private schools and the church hierarchy were run by a non-Arab community in Palestine for many decades, but during Father Ayad's tenure many things changed; some world powers fell while others rose at the end of the first and second world wars.

"The church hierarchy was run by foreigners for a long time in Jerusalem, but all that has changed, now almost all the priests are Arab. Even in the Vatican it's hard to find Italians these days. It's become a very international dergy."

Father Ayad has close personal contacts with not only clerical rainer. Ayad has cause personal contains with too only declar institutions but also with governments and community leaders in Europe and North and South America. "My life is one big campaign. We need support. Sometimes it's moral, sometimes financial, sometimes governmental; it depends. We are a government in exile and despite all the support. Sometimes it's moral, sometimes fin learnmental; it depends. We are a government in extile and despite an tue diplomatic gains we have made in the last two years, it is not enough. Getting the whole world to recognise the Palestinian government in exile is not enough. I am responsible for the non-governmental bodies vis-a-vis the Palestine question and all I can say is that all resolutions are good and wonderful. Many, many medical, educational and welfare organisations have played an important part in making life in the camps and under occupation more bearable but the point remains that all is not good and the point remains that all is not good occupation. Tather Avad declares. mongh — the point remains that we must return," Father Ayad dec The Palestinian community in North and South America which, according to some estimates, numbers one million could play a very important role in the promotion of the Palestine cause. "They are economically powerful. In some cases they are even politically powerful. But when you are dealing with Israel politics is a different ball game," he

Pather Ayad believes that powerful Arab lobbies made up of Arab-Americans promoting just Arab causes could play a more decisive role in the making of American foreign policy. "There is definitely room for improvement in Palestinian-U.S. relations," he observed.

The Palestinians in South America like the ones in North America have a strong communities.

a strong community spirit, according to Father Ayad. The communities, the majority of whom are congregations of Palestinians from a variety of West Bank villages and towns congregate in community clubs, run Arabic West Bank wileges and towns congregate in community clubs, run Arabic language radio stations, newspapers, Arab restaurants, night schools and machines soccer teams

They are politically aware but they are far away, some of them were born in Chile, Argentina or Brazil, sometimes even their fathers were born there and that creates a distance in the urgency of the political status

our takes and that creates a distance in the triguery of the Ayad says.

Father Ayad is confident that the political awareness and subsequent.

Father Ayad is confident that the political awareness and subsequent.

Father Ayad is confident that the political awareness and subsequent particular and in the Americas, a large libiting of the Palestinian community in the Americas, a large libiting of which is incidently Christian, will grow in time. Although percentage of which is incidently Christian, will grow in time. Although the made appear Palestinian medical, educational and cultural institutions in the occupied alane medical, educational and cultural institutions in the occupied territories and in the camps throughout the Arab World, political institutions is still lacking.

"More assertive steps will undoubtedly be made sooner or later and with an increase in political awareness globally about the Palestine question, the communities assertiveness is bound to grow soon," says Pather Ayad.

Although Father Ayad believes that South Americans are aware of the justice of the Palestinian cause "they are too deeply in debt to world justice of the Palestinian cause "they are too deeply in debt to world justice of the Palestinian cause "they are too deeply in debt to world justice." Our laws. Only truly independent giants can afford to speak out strongly on the laws. Only truly independent giants can afford to speak of justice." The laws of the world welcomes the beginning of a new decade with open arms, has the world welcomes the beginning of a new decade with open arms, has the world welcomes the beginning of a new decade with open arms, has the world welcomes the beginning of a new decade with open arms, has the world welcomes the beginning of a new decade with open arms, has the world welcomes the beginning of a new decade with open arms, has the world welcomes the beginning of a new decade with open arms, has the world welcomes the beginning of a new decade with open arms, has the world welcomes the beginning of a new decade with open arms, has the world welcomes the beginning of a new decade with open arms, has the world welcomes the beginning of a new decade with open arms. Margaed Palestinian identification cares which are yet amount the state of the part of Pather Ayad's indicatation that at 79 second is still very much a part of Pather Ayad's batteries. As a European admirer cares said of this priest from Palestine this said a wish to return home.

### Art theft: The impact of 1992

By Clare Pedrick

ROME - If 1992 is now firmly ssociated with the advent of a borderless European Community (EC), art historians in Italy are quick to point out that it also marks the 500th anniversary of the death of Renaissance master Piero della Francesca.

The two events are not entirely unrelated. Italian art experts have warned that the dismantling of customs controls among the 12 EC nations could lead to the wholesale plundering of one of the world's richest storehouses of art treasures. Roman busts, pieces of Etruscan jewelry and statues from southern Italy's ancient Magna Grecia, as well as scores of priceless paintings, will all disappear to be resold to cash-rich collectors in Australia, Japan and the United States, they claim. "The sacking is inevitable. They'll buy up Italy," said art historian Federico Zeri.

Works of art are already leaving Italy in a steady trickle, some of them sold off by their owners, others products of the flourishing art-theft business. Come 1992, the elaborate ruses currently used to spirit paintings and sculptures out of the country will no longer be necessary

"It will all be perfectly legal," said Luigi Conte, spokesman for the Italian Ministry of Culture. The free movement of goods within the EC will mean that no one will be stopped at customs, whether they are sending a lorryload of timber to Germany or a consignment of paintings. What worries us is that the trickle may turn into a flood and drain us of some of our most important art treasures."

One of the first to sound the alarm was Professor Giulio Carlo Argan, art historian, senator and former mayor of Rome. "1992 will be a disaster," he said. "By abolishing the customs controls we face the biggest artistic diaspora of our time.

Art theft has long been big business in Italy. An estimated 40 pieces are stolen every day from museums, archeological sites and churches, according to a special unit of the carabinieri (the national police) set up to try to halt the trade. During the past 20 years an estimated 200,000 items have disappeared, most of them shipped to Britain or Switzerland and then on to the major markets in the United States, Japan and

In 1988 the sale of a 5thcentury statue of Aphrodite to the Paul Getty Museum in Malibu, California, shocked the Italian art world and brought calls for much tighter controls. Police believe that the piece was stolen from a site in the ancient Greek colony of Morgantina, Sicily, be-fore being sent north to Milan' concealed in a truckload of carrots. It was then smuggled out to Switzerland and sold to the California museum by London art dealer Robin Symes for an estimated \$20 million.

Uncertainty on the world's stock markets has made investing in paintings and sculptures more attractive than ever. For the same reason, the antiquities market, always considered the poor relation of the art world, has seen a boom since the stock-market crash of October 1987, with prices soaring to record-breaking

In Italy, professional grave robbers ("tombaroli") have organized into gangs to loot coins, jewelry, vases and other objects from the tombs of the ancient Etruscans, a highly civilized peo-ple who pre-dated the Romans. In the Sicilian town of Paterno alone, the carabinieri estimate, there are at least 1,000 tombaroli,

who has a system for smuggling the stolen goods out of the

The tombaroli are also helped by the lack of a coordinated approach to art theft among the various European countries. Italy, with its obvious interest in halting the exodus of art treasures, has fairly tough laws on the export and import of works of art. In contrast, the export/import regulations of Britain, France and Switzerland (not an EC member) are far more lax. Those three countries, together with Japan, refused to sign a United Nations convention drawn up in 1970 to curb illegal trade in stolen artifacts.

Prompted by warnings about 1992, Italian government officials have begun talks with their European counterparts in a bid to have important works of art exempted from the new rules that stipulate free movement of goods within the Ec. "The difficulty is in getting international agreement on the definition of what constitutes a national art treasure and what should therefore be protected from being sold abroad," said Luigi Conte at the Ministry of

Further problems are posed by Italy's own acute shortage of staff and funding when it comes to protecting its heritage. Hardly any of the country's museums have computerized record-keeping, and lack of space means that hundreds of thousands of paintings and statues are left gathering dust and damp in basements. Some are damaged beyond repair. Others are stolen. Only now, for the first time, is the government taking steps to make an inventory of all its treasures. Said Casimiro Porto, vice-president of the Finarte auction house:

worth US \$1.5 million but it was we who alerted the museum from where it had been stolen. They hadn't even noticed it was mis-

The same lack of resources makes it difficult for officials to enforce existing laws. The carabi-nieri's anti-theft unit has only 80 members. Special border posts established to check works of art being exported number just 14 and are often staffed by young, inexperienced officials, complain Italian experts. "Sometimes they'll block everything, without any good reason," said Fabrizio Lemme, who works as a consultant at the Ministry of Culture. "A few years back they stopped a whole collection of statues from leaving the country. It turned out they were just plaster reproductions, designed as omaments for gardens, but these officials mistook them for originals from the

16th century." Italy's less scrupulous art dealers have learned to make good use of such loopholes. Valuable paintings are often taken out of their frames and hidden under worthless paintings. Other tricks of the trade include changing the signature on a canvas to make it seem as though the work was done by a lesser artist. "I know of at least 50 works of art which have left the country in this way, all of them perfectly in order with

an export stamp," said Lemme. Some experts maintain that any new protective legislation agreed upon by the EC will prove useless until Italy tightens up its own security procedures. "It's not a question of laws. It's a question of men and resources," said art critic Federico Zeri.

"My fear is that even if we do get works of art put into a special category, the dismantling of controls on the EC borders will make checking up on what is going out

Professor Giulio Carlo Argan, a former mayor of Rome, predicts a major increase in art theft in 1992 when the EC borders will fall.

even less effective than before," added Professor Argan. "I know that people who make a living from (illegally) selling works of art are already doing everything in their power to work out new ways of getting them through."

The greatest category at risk from 1992 remains Italy's hugely rich treasure house of religious and privately owned works of art. says Argan. "Much of this is outside the state's control, but it represents a vital part of our cultural heritage. There are highly valuable pieces in churches around the country and there are still many large and very old private collections in cities like Genoa, Venice and Bologna which are of tremendous importance and should not be allowed to

go abroad." Contesting the views of experts such as Argan is a small but vocal faction that argues that art belongs to everyone and that, in Italy's case, it would be better to bring some of the vast numbers of neglected works up out of the

less richly endowed countries. A report prepared by the EC criticised Italy for being too restrictive and called for more sharing of art treasures within the Community. At a roundtable meeting in Rome, British Museum Director David Wilson expressed a similar view, urging that Italy provide greater opportunity for the purchase of Italian works abroad and siding with the muchcriticised Getty Museum for its controversial purchase of the Aphrodite.

Meanwhile, police in Sicily say they have evidence that the Mafia (organised crime network) has begun to move into the art world as a means of laundering some of its huge drug profits. Censis, a social research institute in Rome, estimates the Mafia's annual income at around \$75 billion, most of it generated from the international drug trade. Detectives investigating a narcotics ring say that they stumbled upon a plan by the crime organisation called Cosa Nostra to buy a stolen paintbasements and on display in other ing by Titian. World News Link

### Pilgrimage and plumbing in Tibet

By Tom Aston

As the Chinese seek to modernise Tibet through education and infrastructure, the Tibetans are digging in their heels to defy what they see as a threat to their culture and national identity.

LHASA, Tibet - Recent Tibetan protests against rule from Beijing came at a time when China had embarked on reforms. There are now more function-

ing monasteries and practising monks than at any time since the Chinese cultural revolution in the Tibet's 6,000 monasteries. Literacy levels are rising and there has oeen a mini-boom in Tibetanlanguage publishing in Lhasa, the capital, as Tibetan gains limited official recognition.

Since 1950, when the Chinese army entered Tibet, Beijing has built up the infrastructure: roads, telephones, hydro-electricity, an air service, television, and sewage systems. These have transformed the towns and benefited the villages that lie along the still believe they were better off

Tibetan militancy is not merely about greater political rights. At the root of the conflict is a clash between Chinese ideas of econo-

before 1950.

nic and social development and Tibetan disdain for the material world. Tibetan Buddhism stresses the imperative of pilgrimage while the Chinese are trying to get the plumbing right.

"We were once offered a piece

Even China's pacificatory ges-tures are viewed with hostility. Repairs to Lhasa's Potala Palace are condemned by Tibetans as mismanaged and unaccompanied by necessary ritual. "They want to turn the palace into an exhibition hall for tourists," said one

The Chinese believe that by the country they are bringing the largely illiterate Tibetans into the 20th century. But most of the curriculum is in Chinese and

largely indifferent to conventional ideas of literacy for there is a strong oral tradition in the villages and monasteries and, in the past, when a reader or writer was needed, local monks were always at hand.

The other-worldly Tibetans did not exploit their abundant re-sources. But Mao Zedong called Tibet "the Western Treasure" and the Chinese have realised its economic potential. Exploitation has produced a

degree of environmental degradation. Large tracts of forest in east and south-eastern Tibet have been felled, for example. This has exposed valleysides to erosion and caused floods downstream. Much of the Timber is there is little stress on traditional floated down the Yangtze and Buddhist culture. Tibetans are Hwanh Ho rivers into China.

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Forests in eastern Tibet have been damaged by acid rain. Agriculture is one area of policy where the Chinese have come

close to reconciling themselves to Tibetan ways in recent years. The reversal in 1980 of earlier decisions to force Tibetans into communes, ban barter and attempt to grow winter wheat rather than traditional barley, has proved re-latively successful. The years of famine and severe rationing are now gone. Most households own some land and their own animals, and have reverted to techniques which provided enough food, if not an overabundance.

Chinese settlement in Tibetan cities, however, is still highly contentious and has provoked Tibetan accusations of "genocide". Although the last official Chinese census said that, of Tibet's two million population, over 1.9 million were ethnic Tibetans, Lhasa's 150,000 population is now said to be about 70 per cent Chinese. In Shigatse, Tibet's second city, with 45,000 people, the figure is 60 per cent.

Tibetans repeatedly allege that medical teams, especially in the rural areas, press Tibetan women to undergo sterilisation and abortions. The Chinese, however, affirm they follow the same birth control policy in Tibet as in the rest of China.

philosophical gap is being bridged. While Beijing presses on with modernisation, the Tibetans cling to their ways and demand the right to follow their own path.



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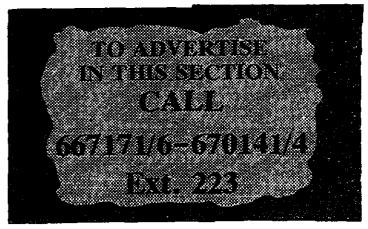


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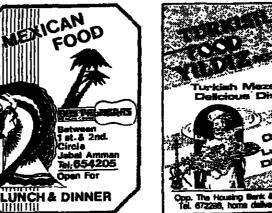
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### Mubarak issues grim warning on state control

CAIRO (R) — President Hosni Mubarak, in a grim warning underlining Egypt's deepening economic crisis, has said it must not make the same mistake as Eastern European countries by depending too heavily on state

He also said Egypt's problems could be exacerbated if foreign aid was diverted from Cairo to the Eastern bloc.

"We have the example of states which did everything and they have reached the terrible line of Langer. They are faltering now in Eastern Europe because the state used to do everything," Mubarak told reporters Tuesday.

Despite moves in the last two decades to boost private enterprise, Egypt has one of the big-gest public sectors outside the socialist bloc and the kind of

inflation, Argentines fear it is

returning to haunt them.
On Tuesday the austral curren-

cy dived 20.8 per cent against the

dollar from a 1,355 opening to a

1,710 close. Time-deposit interest

rates remained high at a monthly

reflect reality. We warned it would take a while for the mar-

kets to settle," Economy Minister

Antonio Erman Gonzalez told

reporters Tuesday, but business-

men and analysts were unim-

We're heading straight towards hyperinflation," said a leading

economist for one of Argentina's.

largest food industry organisa-

"I heard it from every business-

This morning when we saw

man I spoke to today. They had

no doubts," said the economist

what the markets were doing we

just stopped sales," the president

for Latin America of a European

liquor and beverage company

"If we do sell next week our

prices will have to go up around

One Sterling

One U.S. dollar

One ounce of gold

who asked not to be named.

"We've jumped overboard.

"These wide fluctuations don't

105 per cent.

"With the present international changes, the time will come when aid could be gradually reduced,"
Mubarak said."That is why we should depend on ourselves in ent and the private secdevelopment and the private sec-tor should invest its money in

Egypt."
His remarks were in the latest in a series of appeals for greater efficiency amid signs that Egypt's economy is sinking deeper and deeper into crisis.

Cairo stopped most repayments on its foreign debt 18 months ago, making only those essential payments needed to keep credit lines open for food and other imports.

Economic analysts say the government has barely enough money to meet even these payments or maintain supplies of its

was a rude awakening for Argentines after a long Christmas

weekend. The previous week the

austral held firm against the dol-

lar, buoyed by a President Carlos

Menem cabinet reshuffle and new

Dec. 11 resignation of Nestor

Rapanelli as economy minister.

During his five-month tenure he

had brought inflation down to a

monthly 5.6 per cent in October

after two months of hyperinfla-

tion that in July reached a 196 per

confidence in Rapanelli's ability

to carry out the Peronist govern-

ment's reform programme and

the austral began its tumble

In a bold move last week,

Gonzalez freed exchange mar-

kets, salary negotiations, lifted

price controls and appealed to

businessmen and bankers to be-

"Last week's calm made no

sense. It was a result of a goodwill

agreement between the govern-

ment and the big exporting

111.0 112.1 453.2 457.7 335.5 338.9 103.9 104.9 50.6 51.1 180.2 182.0

economi

against the dollar.

have responsibly.

ziano told Reuters.

Japanese yen (for 100) Dutch guilder Swedish crown Italian lira (for 100)

U.S. dollars

Canadian dollar

**Deutschemarks** 

Dutch guilders

Belgian francs

French francs

Japanese yen

Swedish crowns

Danish crowns

U.S. dollars

Norwegian crowns

Italian lire

Swiss francs

**AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES** 

644.0 650.0

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Wednesday, December 27,

**LONDON EXCHANGE RATES** 

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

1.6295/310

1.1585/95

1.6885/95

1.5310/30

*5.775*0/800

1265/1267

141.80/90

6.1810/60 6.5610/60

6.5640/90

409.45/409.85

35.53/58

1.9090/105

Bank official rates

But by November markets lost

cent, a record monthly rate.

Market turmoil had forced in

economic measures.

Argentina faces

BUENOS AIRES (R) — Six 100 per cent," he added. The austral's plunge Tuesday

hyperinflation

of Moscow than of a mixed eco-most vital import, wheat, which is needed to keep the people supplied with subsidised bread.

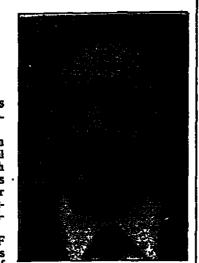
Egypt desperately needs an ent with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) which would enable it to reschedule its foreign debt, relieve creditor pressure and attract fresh investment. Total foreign debt is estimated at \$50 billion.

But no prospect of an IMF accord is in sight and no date has been fixed for a further round of formal negotiations.

Meanwhile, Egypt is watching helplessly as its potential donor countries pledge fresh aid to Eastern Europe.

"There is a sudden realisation they are not going to get all they want from the European Com-munity," one diplomat said.

"Mubarak understands there is a problem. There is a feeling that 40 come up with clear plans.



Homi Mubarak

they have got to do something. But there is not actually any sign that they are taking any concrete steps," he added.

Mubarak has appealed for an export drive, reduced dependency on the public sector and a strengthening of the private sector. But the government has yet

### Japan current account plunges

TOKYO (Agencies) — Japan's pressure from its trading part-current account and trade surners, particularly the United the minth straight month as imports surged, and economists said

account, which measures trade in both goods and services, plunged 37 per cent in November from a vear earlier to \$4.26 billion, the

government said Wednesday. The surplus in merchandise trade tumbled to \$4.49 billion, down 41 per cent.

"In the coming months, the reduction of the surphises will certainly continue," said economist Soichi Enkyo at the Bank of Tokyo. He said the strength of the economy and a higher yen would boost imports further while curbing exports.

Exports slipped three per cent from a year earlier to \$21.61 billion in November, while imports climbed 17 per cent to \$17.11 billion.

A Finance Ministry official also predicted the surpluses would keep shrinking in the months ahead. Japan is under intense

pluses plunged in November for States, to reduce the surpluses. Economists said slowing foreign demand for Japanese cars was the trend would continue early a major factor behind the decline in exports.

In addition, many Japanese firms are looking more to the local market and away from exports because of Japan's strong domestic demand, Enkyo added.

He predicted the yen would rise in coming months due to a narrowing of the difference between interest rates in the United States and Japan, which raised its key discount rate by a half-point Monday to 4.25 per cent.

A stronger yen tends to make Japanese goods less competitive abroad and encourage Japanese to import more.

The government also said Wednesday Japan's current account surplus with the United States fell in the first half of 1989 but its trade surplus widened.

The bilateral current account surplus dropped to \$22.98 billion from \$23.69 billion a year earlier, but the trade surplus rose to

### PLA reports on profit

AMMAN (J.T.) — PIA made a arrangements passengers of economic of proper 970 million (\$45.5) million) during 1988-1989 compared with rupees 823 million in the previous year, an increase of rupees 146.5 million.

PIA also plans to purchase about a dozen aircraft of various categories during the next six years. At present it has a fleet of 39 aircrafts, which would increase to 50 after the purchase. PIA is also planning to replace its Fokker-27 and B-747-200 planes with more modern aircraft in the fu-

Immediate measures have also been taken to improve the standard of services aboard PIA

flights. Initially under the new

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after being welcomed at the aircraft and will be given hot and cold towels to provide a comfortable atmosphere. Welcome drink trophy will also be introduced for first class passengers.

Good meals will be provided to both economy and first class passengers with additional menues, while the chef will be present on some of the flights to taste and examine the meals on the spot. A custom service officer will review the general performance during the flight and will find out the priorities of the passengers so that planning for future improvement can be done.

THE BETTER HALF, By Harris

#### **WORLD STOCK MARKETS**

By Reuters

SYDNEY - Offshore buying helped boost the share market to a firmer close in quiet trading after the Christmas holiday break. The All Ordinaries Index closed 7.4 up at 1651.8. TOKYO - Share prices sailed ahead, propelled by index-linked

buying and scattered buying by investment trust funds. The Nikkei soared 120.32 to a record 38,801.63. HONG KONG — Profit-taking pared most of the early morning

gains with the main stock index ending only slightly firmer. The Hang Seng Index rose 8.23 to 2,929.25. SINGAPORE — Share prices fell over a broad front on

profit-taking. The Straits Times Industrial Index closed 4.36 points lower at 1,483.40.

BOMBAY - Market closed.

FRANKFURT — Share prices soared on massive overseas buying. The DAX index surged to an historic high of 1,771.44, up 75.06

ZURICH - Swiss shares closed mixed in quiet trading. The Performance Index rose four points to 1,128. PARIS — French shares closed higher, helped by an early rally on

Wall Street and foreign buyers. The CAC rose 8.17 points to close at 1,985.66. LONDON — Shares extended early sharp gains as Wall Street

rallied modestly but the rise was greatly inflated by thin seasonal trading. By 1542 GMT the FTSE 100 was 31.0 points up at

NEW YORK - Wall Street stocks rose on year-end bargain hunting. By 1630 GMT the Dow was trading at 2,726.11, up 17

### Gulf industry to lead 1990s economic growth Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi

BAHRAIN (R) — Industrial growth will lead Gulf economies in the 1990s, but a regional development strategy is needed to eliminate duplication and prom-ote complementary projects, a senior Gulf economist said

Gulf International Bank economist Henry Azzam said in a monthly report that, despite the advantages of cheap energy and low-priced feedstock from petrochemical and gas plants, there were many barriers to rapid in-

dustrial growth in the region.

"The challenge facing industrial development in the Gulf during the control of the challenge facing industrial development in the Gulf during the control of the control ing the 1990s is ability to produce and sell competitively, both in the domestic markets as well as

abroad," Azzam said.
"The GCC (Gulf Cooperation Council) countries need therefore to come up with a coherent industrial strategy for the region as a whole, that eliminates duplication and promotes com-

plementary industrial projects."
The GCC groups Bahrain,

Arabia and the United Arab Emirates. The six states have a total of 5.405 factories and inust-

The manufacturing sector's contribution to their GDP rose from around 5.5 per cent in 1980 to 9.0 per cent in 1987 and is targeted to reach 15 per cent in the mid-1990s, Azzam said.

Kuwait and Bahrain top the present ratios with 13.7 per cent and 12.3 per cent respectively.

Azzam said downstream petroleum and petrochemical industries offered the best opportuni-

ties for growth, along with pro-

jects based on mineral resources

and import substitution for consumer industries, particularly of processed food. Synthetic or assembling industries, which have large markets in

the Arab World, engineering industries and projects serving defence or oil sectors wold also be

But he said obstacles to industry included the high cost of some

imported products, the small local market, limited commercial bank lending and limited protection by the Gulf tariff system. Commercial bank credit to Gulf industry declined to 2.6 bil-

lion in 1988 from 2.9 billion in 1985 while the percentage share of commercial lending to GCC manufacturing sectors fell to 4.6 per cent from 5.9 per cent. Lack of management expertise and technical skills among the

national population, limited tech-

nological research and incompre-

hensive industrial legal codes

were also barriers to growth, On the positive side, a nonunionised imported labour force, wide-ranging industrial incentives and subsidies, ample capital resources and political stability

helped Gulf industry. With a common external tariff and free trade agreement set to be implemented within the six member states by 1992, a GCC common market could soon become a reality, Azzam said.

### **CBJ** sets rates for export credits

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) announced Wednesday that it had set the interest rate at eight per cent for credits advanced to Jordanian exporters of Jordanian products to Arab countries. According to a memorandum sent by the CBJ to the Chamber of Commerce in reply to a letter on guarantees on credits and discounts on exports, the eight per cent interest rate will apply only to exports to Arab countries with whom Jordan has already entered into agreements. The rate will be six per cent for exports to other countries and this difference is aimed at encouraging exports and open new markets, the memorandum said.

### Heating oil prices surge

NEW YORK (AP) — Heating oil futures prices surged Tuesday in the wake of a weekend explosion at an Exxon Corporation refinery in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, boosting prices and raising prospects of further spot oil shor-

tages.

The accident at the plant, which normally produces some 17 million liters of heating oil daily, aggravated a price increase caused by the record-setting cold snap that has hit much of the nation. Supplies of home heating oil already were tight before the explosion and the accelerated demand has pushed retail prices as high as \$1 a gallon in some areas.

Wholesale prices also shot higher, as reflected by oil futures. Heating oil contracts for January delivery jumped 10.74 cents from Friday to close at 92.48 cents a gallon on the New York Mercantile Exchange. Other contract months, which are subject to daicents to 2.00 cents a gallon. One gallon equals 3.8 litres.

Crude oil and gasoline futures also rose. Traders said the price rise was exacerbated by thin trading volume, because many participants had not returned yet from long holiday weekends. Markets were closed Monday for

The February contract for West Texas Intermediate, the benchmark U.S. crude oil, rose 62 cents to close at \$21.91 per 42-gailon barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange. Unleaded regular gasoline for January advanced 5.49 cents to 69-94 cents a

"There's no stopping prices for the short term until the temperatures warm up," said Dillard Spriggs, president of Petroleum Analysis Ltd. in New York.

Exxon, Mobil Corp. and Star Enterprise, a Texaco Inc. affiliate, reported last week that some of their terminals in the U.S. northeast had suffered temporary oil shortages and customers were sent to other facilities or forced to wait for new supplies.

### Foreigners seeking high wages worry Japanese

TOKYO (AP) - In kitchens, factories and construction sites across Japan, foreigners are doing jobs that Japanese no longer want, shaking up a homogeneous people unaccustomed to different races.

Japan's growing reputation in the Third World as a land of economic opportunity is attracting workers from Pakistan and Bangladesh who can earn as much in a day as they do in weeks or even months back home.

Chinese eager to make their fortune sail in posing as Viet-namese in hopes of gaining poli-tical asylum, and Africans ignore local prejudice against blacks to earn money to send home.

Most of the foreigners — estimates of their numbers range from 100,000 to 200,000 - work here illegally. In addition, tens of thousands of foreign students on temporary visas hold jobs. Together, they have an impact far beyond their numbers on the 120

Tokyo commuters used to seeing only Japanese faces and hearing one language on trains now appear uneasy at seeing occasional black and dark brown faces and hearing strange ton-

Heavy television coverage of boat people and foreign workers is bringing the issue into the living rooms of millions. Hundreds of thousands of Japanese are working side by side with foreigners for the first time.

Some press comment has been thoughtful. "Is it possible for us to enjoy such affluence separate from the rest of the world, especially the people of neighbouring countries?" the Mainichi Shimbun newspaper said in an edito-

But other writers, noting the one billion people in neighbouring China, have raised visions of aliens pouring into the country. Letters to the editor pages have been flooded with fears of cultural invasion, crime and overcrowding.

A 2-1/2 hour Japanese television programme on foreign workers last May brought calls from 1,000 viewers — 20 times the usual number for such programmes, a press report said. For every person arguing to let in foreign workers, two said it was a bad idea. Foreign workers will destroy

Japan" reads the subtitle of a book by critic Kanji Nishio. The book, with a large padlock pictured on the cover, is called "Recommendation for a Closed Country (Sakoku) in Labour," using the same word that Shoguns used to ban foreigners from Japanese shores for contunies.

Generally favouring entry for foreign workers are small businessmen, thousands of whom have gone bankrupt because of a labour shortage. For part-time jobs in such fields as construction and restaurants, opening out-number available workers three or four to one.

Owners of small labour-intensive factories have deluged re-fugee authorities with job offers for the boat people, even as mass deportations are being arranged. Japan has agreed to resettle 10,000 Indochinese refugees, but unskilled workers from China or other countries are subject to

"If it weren't for these foreign workers, we'd go under," says Kenichi Masuda, In his family's century-old cast-iron foundry, elderly Japanese blackened from head to toe with soot shovel coke from the dirst floor into a furnace and pour molten iron into molds in a dimly lit wooden building.

"Young Japanese don't want to do this dangerous, dirty work," Masuda shouts above the deafening clank of machinery, pointing out a Chinese working for him legally on a government training programme.
At a neighbouring foundry, 29-

year-old Paul Aduna from Ghana works for 900 yen (\$6.42) an hour under the same programme originally designed to transfer manufacturing skills to developing countries. At 6:30 a.m. at grimy Takada-

nobaba station on Tokyo's west side, a recruiting centre for day labourers, construction foremen pass over the few aging Japanese men reclining on cardboard and recking of alcohol.

Young, eager, neatly dressed Chinese students wave away an

hour - about 25 times what they'd make in China. "Too cheap. He's crazy," they say. With an offer of 1,250 yen (about \$9), they board a van to be taken to a construction site. "I used to work in New-York," says a Malaysian, who didn't

want his name used. "But the money is a lot better here." It's hard to be unemployed in a labour market like this. An Asian American reporter at the station is asked if she wants a job as a

waitress in a family restaurant. In the sprawling neon jungle of Kabukicho, thousands of women from the Philippines, Thailand and Korea work in bars, sex shows and prostitution, most brought to this country by

In Tokyo's immigration office, Thais, Ghanaians, Bangladeshis, Pakistanis, Chinese and others stand, squat and sleep in hallways bursting with endless queues of people, trying in a babel of languages to persuade overwhelmed bureaucrats to let them stay a few

more months. schools have opened in the past couple of years catering to students from developing countries, some acting primarily as visa brokers. But there are few other businesses that cater to the new arrivals, who have to keep a low profile to avoid trouble from an-

thorities. Most foreign labourers are working illegally after entering on tourist visas, or on student visas that allow only part-time work. Japan, unlike many developed countries, has no legal provision to allow foreigners-to enter as unskilled labourers.

Big business and the government want to keep it that way. Although small businesses have been lobbying the government to allow more foreign workers, in-dustry leaders argue for greater investment in machines to solve iabour shortages.

Even many Japanese who want foreign workers for temporary help worry that they will settle here and disturb Japan's "social harmony." But many of the foreigners, stung by prejudice, say they don't want to stay.

JUNUEZ

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eanuts WHY DO I GET THE IMPRESSION THAT YOU LIKE MARSHMALLOWS IN YOUR HOT CHOCOLATE?









HE ALWAYS SAID









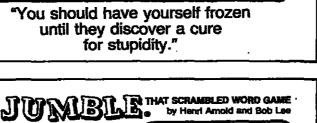














A HEM IN ORDER TO DO THIS. Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as sug-gested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: Jumbles: BOGUS QUASH MUSKET CLERGY Answer: What legal "tender" might be when you don't have it...."TOUGH"

### English, Dutch fans worry World Cup city

CAGLIARI, Sardinia (R) — The people of Sardinia have always been distrustful of the sea for it carried the invaders who occupied the island over the centuries.
So it will be next June when the ferries that ply the Mediterranean between mainland Italy and the Sardinian capital of Cagliari dock with the notorious English and Dutch soccer fans for the World

Sardinian capital of Caghari dock with the notorious English and Jordan (CRI) and Durch soccer fans for the World day that it has complete the draw that will bring divanced to late seight to with the draw that will bring divanced to late largiand and the Netherlands of Jordanian has bere. It is confident that massive buntries. Acoust security will contain potential violation of late large from the hooligans who amoet of CRI have blackened their countries a letter on Bank. But members of the public are it per cent in the countries with whom he could be tempted to take the law into their own hands if police are unable to head off trouble.

The fans are welcome as long will be significant.

entered into and "The fans are welcome as long to other count

to other the sar they behave well," said Antonello Livretti, a 26-year-old

Neither vulnerable. South deals.

EAST

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NORTH

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0 A 2

SOUTH

The bidding:

2 NT Pass

Suffered a

♣ K Q ♥ A 10 7 4

# A K 6 3

Pass 1 & Pass Pass 3 NT Pass

ing lead: Queen of O

"The natural tendency is to con-

serve one's assets. Once in a while,

however, you have to spend a little to gain rich dividends at some future

South's jump to two no trump showed a balanced 19-20 points.

Since North had a balanced hand,

there was little point in looking for

any game contract other than three

THE Daily Crossword by Evelyn Benshood

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salesman and local soccer fan. "The people here are the sort that mind their own business but they also have a saying 'don't go looking for me because if you do

vou'll find me'," he added. One taxi driver, noting that Sardinians were peaceful until given cause to feel offended, was more blunt:

"They'll get a good reception," he said. "But if they misbehave they'll get slung in the sea."

Sardinia, accessible only by plane or ferry, was chosen as the first round venue for England during the 1990 World Cup finals because organisers say its isolation provides the best available neans to contain hooliganism.

England, as Group F seeds will play all three first round matches in Cagliari against the Netherlands, Ireland and Egypt, who will travel from their base in the Sicilian capital Palermo.

The England-Netherlands tie on june 16 is potentially the most

West's lead of the queen of dia-

monds attacked dummy's catry, so

declarer could not afford to hold up

the king, declarer cashed the king

and queen of spades and crossed to

the ace of diamonds to cash the ace

of spades. When the jack failed to

come down, declarer had to be satis-

to East-West. Although North

South were in their best spot (four

spades reted to fail), declarer had

not found the winning line. Indeed,

the contract was unbeatable once West had followed to the second

missing that was higher than dum

my's 10 8-the jack. Therefore, de-

clarer could have afforded to

overtake the queen of spades with

the ace to continue with the ten

forcing East to win with the jack.

East's diamond continuation goes

to dummy's ace, but the eight of

spades draws the last outstanding

spade and dummy's long spade be-comes the fulfilling trick. Declarer

collects four spades, a heart and two

- tricks in each minor suit.

This result was highly satisfactory

fied with eight tricks.

#### both countries. "There is no point denying people are a bit afraid but the

ear has been increased by all the talk about hooligans in the media," Cagliari mayor Paolo de Mapietrie eaid

He said he had asked the Italian government to plead with Britain and the Netherlands to ensure known troublemakers were stopped from reaching Sar-

"Since it's sadly true that these people are infamous that probably means they're also known so I think it must be easy to filter them out," de Magistris said. He said he was also proposing a ban on the sale of alcohol
"It could be an additional

explosive of the finals given the security measure. I don't think rivalries between hooligans from these people will be arriving with ·these people will be arriving with barrels of beer. The most they could bring would be a couple of bottles," he said.

Thousands of Italian police and a special British anti-hooligan squad will be in Cagliari to try to event trouble.

Details of the security operation are still being worked out but Dutch, Egyptian and Irish fans arriving from Palermo are likely to be met by police and escorted throughout their stay, according to World Cup organising commit-

English fans staying at beach-side resorts in Sardinia may also be escorted in and out of Cagliari on match days to prevent them wandering around the city, the sources said.

#### HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1989

GENERAL TENDENCIES: All sorts of benefits arise as a result of positive action taken on the December 12th Full Moon which set many good things in motion that will benefit co-workers as well.

ARUES: (March 21 to April 19) You are about to have some very interesting entertainments and recreations come into your life. A trip with your attachment could

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Business arrangements formerly good for you are now your best cans of forging ahead with assets.

Find out what your attachment needs of a practical nature. GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) A family member that was out of your life will come back to be helpful to you. Give your attachment a present of material value.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Entertain outside associates in your home and it will benefit you. Seeing your opportu-nities in a broader aspect can bring you more revenue.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Put in motion a talent now that you have thought you could not utilise. Accept sudden romantic gestures from your mate and enjoy

VIRGO: (August 22 to Septembe 22) Your home is the place to think about adding improvements to in-crease your values. Stick to proven methods in doing what pleases your mate for more happiness.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Invite persons you have not seen for sometime past into your home. Be careful or you can make

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation a very bad business judgment

> SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Argument at home now can destroy the harmony carefully built up there. Get matters with your attachment arranged on a more organised basis.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) A good friend will give you very good suggestions for your business affairs. Added harmony can now exist at your resi-

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) It will take some time to convince an older friend of a plan you have in mind. Entertain your attachment at interesting out-side places. AQUARIUS: (January 21 to Febru-

ary 19) Friends and acquaintances from a distance can occupy your time and attention now. Sho appreciation to confidential advisors by entertaining them.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Be sociable with the most prominent persons you have known for sometime. Show more emotional fervour towards those who also dwell beneath your roof.

Today's child: If your child were born today he or she will find many benefits in religious training and working in educational pursuits. sational activities will be a natural for this child early on and many of their classmates will want this person to run for office or hold a position of merit in the school

"The stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you.

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The Government Tenders Directorate in the Hashemite

Kingdom of Jordan invites experienced contractors from member countries of the World Bank, Switzerland and

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Tender documents are obtainable against the payment of

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da, central heating, second floor.

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#### INVITATION TO TENDER NO. 31F/89

JPMC announces the invitation to tender No. 31F/89 Tyres.

The tender documents are available at JPMC offices in Amman, Supply Department, until 2:00 p.m. local time Sat. Feb. 3, 1990. Application for documents should be accompanied by a nonrefundable fee of JD 30 for each set of tender documents. The closing date for tenders submission is 12:00

hours local time Wednesday Feb. 7, 1990.

**Wasef Azar Managing Director** 

### Navratilova picked as athlete of the decade

By Hal Bock The Associated Press

At age 33, Martina Navratilova is passing into a new phase of her tennis life and nobody knows it

better than she does.

She is surrounded by a crowd of young hotshot players, many of them not yet out of their teens, all of them fuelled by the fever of championships, the thrill of holding a trophy high over their heads, exulting over another tournament title.

Navratilova knows the feeling very well.

From 1982 through 1986, she was ranked number one, the very best women's tennis player in the world. There was a record streak of 74 consecutive victories and another string of 58 straight. There were 15 grnad slam singles titles — a record six straight at

MILAN, Italy (AP) - Carl

Lewis and Martina Navratilova

were picked as the best

athletes of the 1980s in an

international survey published Wednesday by Italy's largest sports daily newspaper, Gaz-zetta Dello Sport of Milan.

The American sprinter edged

Argentine soccer star Diego

Maradona, Canadian ice-hock-

ey ace Wayne Gretzky and

world heavyweight boxing champion Mike Tyson in the

survey carried out among the

world's largest newspapers and

news agencies to name the best

man and woman athlete of a

The Czechoslovak-born ten-

nis star preceded her West

German rival Steffi Graf and

East German track ace Marita

Koch, who were tied in second

"I am very happy, because I did not believe I could have

preceded such aces as Marado-

three Australian Opens and two French Opens. Her total of 50 grand slam titles is second only to Margaret Court's 66.

It was a string of success that made her an easy winner as Associated Press woman athlete of the decade. Navratilova received 283 votes in balloting by U.S. sports writers and broadcasters to far outdistance one of the young tennis hotshots, Steffi Graf, who had 69.

They were followed by Florence Griffith Joyner (61), Jackie Joyner-Kersee (30), Nancy Lopez (27), Katarina Witt (4), Ingrid Kristiansen (3), Evelyn Ashford (2) and Grete Waitz (2).

Fifty-seven times during her career, Navratilova swept both the singles and doubles championships of the same tourna-ment. The men's leader is John

na and Gretzky... But I am

second to them in earnings."

the Milan Daily.

Lewis was quoted as saying by

Lewis, 28, who won a re-

cord-equalling of four gold medals in the 1984 Olympic

games in Los Angeles, re-

ceived 31:5 votes in the survey,

compared with Maradona's

21.5 and Gretzky's 11. Tyson

had 9 votes. Ivan Lendl, the

no. 1 tennis player in the world, finished fifth with 5

Navratilova, 33, an eight-

East German swimmer Kris-

"I am somewhat surprised of

tin Otto placed fourth, with 11

being number one. It's a real

Christmas gift... What I will

miss most in the next years will

be Chris Evert," Navratilova

told the Milan Daily.

time Wimbledon champion,

got 29 votes, compared with 24

of Graf and Koch.

Italian survey picks

Navratilova, Lewis

second woman in modern tennis history to win 1 000 matches joining longtime rival Chris Evert, who reached that milestone in 1984. Evert, who retired after the 1989 U.S. Open, was Navratilo-

sweeps.
In 1986, she became only the

va's fiercest opponent. Together, they staged one of the sport's greatest head-to-head road shows, meeting 80 times over 15 years beginning at Akron in 1973 and finishing at Chicago in 1988. Navratilova held a 43-37 career edge over Evert, including 14-8 in grand slam events and 7-2 at Wimbledon. In the 70s, Evert had a 25-11 lead but Navratilova turned that around by winning 32 of their 44 matches during the

next decade. With partner Pam Shriver, Navratilova formed one of the most successful doubles teams in history, winning a record 109 consecutive matches from April

24, 1983 through July 6, 1985. Time, however, has changed Navratilova's approach to her

"Tennis is not the most important thing in my life," she said during 1989, her second straight year without a grand slam title. 'I'm not willing to sacrifice everything in order to play good tennis. I did that for five or six years. Maybe I'm too mature

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McEnroe with 29 singles-doubles

There was a time, though. Navratilova came to the United States in 1975, a scared teen-ager from Czechoslovakia, equipped with a tennis racquet and a dream. It would take much much more than that, though, to excel

It was her dedication to a rigorous training schedule that in-cluded a strict diet, weightlifting, running and hours of daily practice that turned her into the best

player of her time. Wimbledon victories in 1978 and 1979 set the stage for her romp through the next decade. She would dominate the game. particularly the majors and although she never was credited with a single season grand slam sweep, she did win six straight majors over two seasons starting

with Wimbledon in 1983. She has always flourished on the staid grass courts of the All-England Club, reaching at least the semifinals of that tournament every year in this decade. There is something about the place that

fans her flame.

"My strut is back," she said on the eve of the 1989 Wimbledon.



The Filipino maid Virginia R San Juan has left the house of her employer, located in Shmeisani on Dec. 10, 1989 and has not returned yet.

Whoever finds her or has any information about her whereabouts is kindly requested to call tel. 671820. Anyone who covers up for her will be liable to responsibility.

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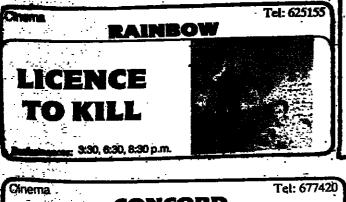
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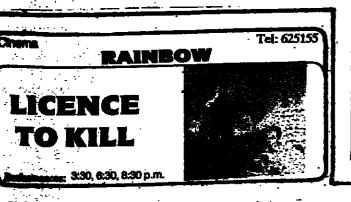
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And wishes to inform all its clients of their new surprises for every amount of purchase. A free car wash/wheel balance/ free oil change/ motor aligning/ car upholstery washing and many more presents which will be advertised for later.





Ministry of Public Works and Housing not later than 1330 hours Jordan local time on Wednesday, 31/01/1990. Eng. Salem Qudah Chairman of Central Tenders Committee **Director Government Tenders Directorate** Cinema

Tel: 634144 PHILADELPHIA

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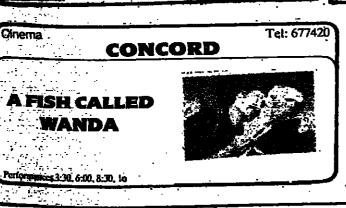
Performance 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30 p.m.

Cinema Tel: 675571 NUOUM **Mel Gibson Darny Glover** in Lethal Weapon "2"

nees 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30



Tel: 674111 PLAZA LICENCE TO KILL



### Cambodia war heats up; rebels cut supply routes

BANGKOK (R) — Khmer Rouge guerrillas said they have cut Cambodian government supply routes to the war-racked north west as fighting intensifies in the country three months after the Vietnamese troop withdrawal.

**WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF** 

JOHANNESBURG (AP) - At least 69 people, almost all black,

were killed over the four-day Christmas weekend in violent crimes and political faction fighting, police said Wednesday. Police said 38 people were stabbed, beates or shot to death in and

around Cape Town over the holiday period, which included

Tuesday. One of those killed was a black policeman shot with his

own gan after he was attacked by two men who lived with him.

Also, police reported 24 marders and 24 rapes from Saturday

through Tuesday in Soweto, the black township of 2.5 million people outside Johannesburg. The police unrest summaries over the four-day period listed an additional seven deaths. The latest

report, released Wednesday, said a black policemen was killed in

an attack near the port city of Durban and a black man and a

black woman burned to death when their hut was set afire near

the southern townof Port Shepstone, the report added. Author-

ities also said more than 90 people were killed in traffic accidents

CHICAGO (AP) - Accidents on U.S. roads and highways killed

353 people during the long Christmas weekend, well within

estimates from the National Safety Council. California claimed the highest toll of 48, followed by 27 in Florida and 22 in Texas.

The Chicago-based Council had said that from 320 to 420 people

would die in traffic accidents during an official 78-hour counting period between Friday evening and Monday night. It based its

estimate on data from previous years, seasonal weather factors and national driving safety trends. During last year's Christmas

holiday, 386 traffic fatalities were reported. For the New Year's

noliday period, the council estimates between 250 and 350 people

TOKYO (AP) — A Bengal tiger bit off a 19-year-old woman

zookeeper's arm as she was giving it water with a hose from

outside its cage at a northern Japan safari park, police said

Wednesday. A police official, speaking on condition of anonym-

ity, said the right arm of Kimie Nagasaku was bitten off at the

elbow Tuesday at the Tohoku Safar Park Zoo in Fukushima

Prefecture (state), 240 kilometres north east of Tokyo. Ms.

Nagasaku, who had been feeding the tiger and cleaning its cage

daily since April 1, told police from her hospital bed that she was

giving the animal water from outside the cage, but declined to

she might have put her hand into the cage as she guided the hose.

The tiper could not have reached out through the five-centimetre space between bars in the cage, he added. Akihiko Ando, an

official of the zoo, said other zookeepers heard a scream and

rushed to the cage, where they found Ms. Nagasaku falling.

Typhoon Jack weakens

discuss details, the officials said. The official said police believed

could die in road accidents, compared with 317 last year.

Tiger bites off zookeeper's arm

from Friday night through Tuesday.

353 killed on roads in U.S.

69 killed during Christmas in S. Africa

Officials of the Klamer Rouge's two non-Communist allies said they maynow try to aim for a full military victor rather than a political settlement with the Hanoiinstalled government in Phnom

Khmer Rouge attacks along route 5 isolated government garrisons in the western province capitals of Sisophon and Battambang from the capital Tuesday, officials of the non-Communist wing of the guerrillas said

"We didn't think we were capable of winning by military means, but we may have to rethink our strategy. "(Government forcs) are just collapsing," said Ok Serei Sopheak, spokesman for the military arm of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF).

The KPNLF and the Sihanoukian National Army (ANS) are allied with the much stronger Communist Khmer Rouge, wide-ly condemned for its 1975-79 rule during which the West estimates one million Cambodians died.

The KPNLF and ANS have said they are fighting for a political settlement to bring all guerrilla forces into a coalition with the 11-vear-old Communist govern-

An ANS official said there would be another round of informal talks between the various factions in Jakarta in February, the first since an international

conference in Paris ended in endlock last August Some officials said they of Phnom Penk after making headway against government

training and morale problems. "The only thing they have over us are heavy weapons. Their firepower is much greater than ours," said Ok Serei. "We think we have to advance more on the military situation."

forces suffering communications,

Diplomats quoted Pimom Penh officials as saying the Khmer Rouge's non-Communist allies have already cut Route 6, the other main road from Phnom Penh to Siem Reap and

KPNLF and ANS officials claim their forces control a quarter of Cambodia but diplomats in Bangkok said their influence is confined to the sparsely populated northwest.

"We still have to rely on the Khmer Rouge and (its backer)

Seoul drafts

accord with

SEOUL (AP) - South Korea

has drafted an accord it hopes to

sign with Communist North

Korea for safe passage of people

across the border that separates

the two countries, officials said

One official at the govern-ment's National Unification

Board, speaking on condition of

anonymity, said the accord would

be presented for review at a

meeting of the two countries'

The two Koreas have been

discussing holding a meeting of

their prime ministers for the first

time since the division of the

Korean peninsula in 1945. Offi-

cials expect the meeting to be

If it is, it would be the highest-

level meeting ever between the

The draft accord, as reported

by a local newspaper, would

allow people of each side to cross

the border and stay on the other

side for up to 60 days, twice a

the border village of Panmunjon

would help process people want-

ing to cross the border, it said.

similar to an agreement signed between East and West Germany

in 1972 for safe passage of their

people across the German

Officials said the draft was

prime ministers next year.

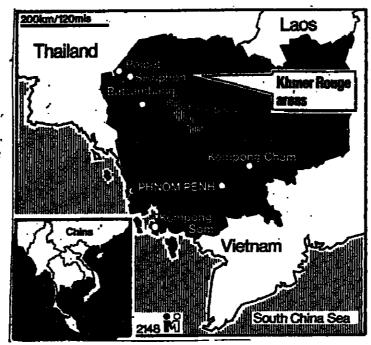
N. Korea

on visits

Wednesday.

held next year.

rival states.



Clima for heavy weapons," said ANS spokesman Ek Sereyrath. Phnom Penh has ruled out any role for the Khmer Rouge in a

Rebel officials said the guerrilla offensive may force Prime Minister Hun Sen into accommodating the Khmer Rouge. "There is a dilemma. If there is

year the Khmer Rouge will go from threagth to strength," said leng blouly, secretary-general of the KPNLF.

Khmer Rouge radio said Wednesday its guerrillas had attacked garrisons in Kratie and Kampong Cham provinces within 75 kilometres of Phnom Penh.

#### Moscow rebuke could help Lithuanian party

MOSCOW (R) - The Soviet leadership's firm rebuke to. Lithuanian Communists over a breakaway move may ironically help to improve the party's flagging image in the independent-minded Baltic republic.

The policy-making Central

Committee Tuesday unanimously backed Kremlin chief Mikhail Gorbachev in condemning as: illegal the Lithuanian Communists' vote last week to split with

Lithuanian Communists have been trying to distance them-selves from the Kremlin in a bid to restore their party's credibility

Throughout the Baltic region the Communists have suffered at the hands of popular front mass movements, which have called for greater autonomy from Moscow and more democracy.

Lithuanian Party chief Algirdas Brazauskas has said local Communists need to establish their own party to regain prestige for elections in February. Soviet officials said Tuesday

that Gorbachev would visit Lithuania in the next few days to

Sri Lankan rebels kill 4 people

COLOMBO (Agencies) — Suspected Sinhalese left-wing rebels stormed a wedding ceremony in Sri Lanka's southern region and shot dead four guests, military sources said Wednesday.

They said the assailants grabbed four men in the house at Urubokke in Matara district Tuesday and shot them. The motive for the attack was not known. Elsewhere in the south, residents said the bodies of nine unidentified young men were burning on car tyres on the roadside in Hambantota district

They said the killings were apparently revenge attacks by igilantes hunting members of the leftist People's Liberation Front, which is fighting to overthrow the

A government statement said security forces killed 12 rebels in the 24 hours to Wednesday

In one incident, police shot dead nine men who attacked them at Kandy in the Central highlands.

Military sources said in the north, Tamil militants fired at a train in Vavuniya district and a navy base in Jaffna district. There

were no casualties. . Military sources said three policemen and a soldier were killed in a blast in southern Hambantota district Wednesday.

They said a mine exploded when the victims were walking down a jungle road. Another soldier was injured in the attack which was blamed on leftwing rebels.

More than 150 members of an ontiawed Tamil militia surrendered to the Sri Lankan army after 44 of their comrades were killed by rival Tamil guerrillas, officials said Tuesday.

After a three-day trek through jungles in eastern Sri Lanka to an peacekeeping troops.

escape pursuing rivals, the 155 weary members of the outlawed Tamil National Army turned themselves in to the Sri Lankan army at the north eastern town of Vidamwela Monday.

They were taken under protec tive custody and brought to a makeshift detention centre in Polonnaruwa, about 165 kilometres north east of Colombo, the capital, military offi-

The surrender took place after the rival faction, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, attacked Tamil National Army camp in the Batticaloa district and killed 44 militants, said the officials, speaking on condition of anony-

mity.

One of the militia members at the detention centre told reporters that the camp had been under siege by Tamil Tigers since last week.

He said the 155 militants had slipped out of the camp Friday in search of food but were spotted and pursued by the Tamil Tigers: "We do not want to go back, we will be killed," said the young Tamil, who refused to give his

Military officials said the guerrillas, most between 18 and 24 years old, were being held temporarily at the detention centre – a former warehouse surrounded by barbed wire - and

would be flown to Colombo soon. The Sri Lankan army displayed an array of weapons seized from the militants. Officials said it included 83 Soviet-designed AK-47 assault rifles, a light machine gun, four submachine guns, five mor-tars, two rocket launchers, five hand grenades and a large amount of amminition.

The fighting between the rival Tamil groups is a reflection of a power void in eastern Sri Lanka created by the departure of Indi-

next May but will not be permit-

ted to run as candidates for other

citizens' movement," said a state-

ment issued by New Forum's national council and signed by

Jens Reich, one of the group's

Several New Forum provincial

leaders have urged that the move-

ment turn itself into a full politic-

al party. The move has been

opposed by New Forum leaders

East Germany's coalition gov-

co-founders.

We will remain the only broad

#### Firms spend \$32b on entertainment

TOKYO (R) — Japanese companies spent a record \$32 billion: in the year to Jan. 31, 1989 on entertainment, according to fi-gures released by the National Tax Agency Wednesday. The amount was up 8.7 per cent from the previous year and translates into an average \$17,300 in entertainment expenses for each Japanese company.

#### Man with 300 rare reptiles held

BANGKOK (AP) — A Japanes man who tried to smuggle nearly 300 turtles and lizards of endangered species to Japan in his suntcases was arrested at Bangket International Airport, a Thai nolice officer said Wednesday, Capt. Paiboon Arinchai said Tsuyoshi Shirawa, 20, of Shiznoka Prefecture, was arrested after authorities discovered that his four suitcases contained 98 turtles and 185 oriental water lizards. Shiwara told police that he had brought the animals from Malaysia and stopped in Bangkok to visit a friend en route to Japan Charged with possession of eadangered wildlife, Shirawa was sentenced Monday to three months in prison and fined 2,500 bant (\$100). The prison sentence was suspended. Paiboon said the animals were tightly packed into the baggage and bound to pre-vent them from making noise and

NEW YORK (AP) - Hotel queen Leona Helmsley rejected a plea deal on state tax-evasion charges, saying she was not giving up her the fight to prove her innocence of similar federal charges. "I've committed no crime," said Mrs. Helmsley, 70, as she left the state courthouse. "I think that when the U.S. appeals court reads the whole record they will vindicate me because I'm innocent." Mrs. Heimsley was convicted on Aug. 30 on federal charges of evading \$1.2 million in income taxes. On four years in prison and fined more than \$7 million. She was with her lawyer, Gerald Feffer, when he filed papers in state supreme court saying the state tax charges against Mrs. Helmsley amount to double jeopardy because of the federal conviction.

Campbell has come to the aid of a 51/2-month-old boy whose doctors

moving. Two turtles and one lizard died, he said. Hotel gueen rejects plea deal

#### Campbell comes to child's aid

PHOENIX (AP) — Singer Glen

say will die unless he gets a liver transplant. Charles and Jule Tenuta of Phoenix are trying to get their son, Tommie, on a waiting list at the University of Chicago Medical Centre. But they don't have the required \$100,000 down payment. About \$32,000 has been raised. Campbell, a Phoenix resident, announced that he will hold a benefit concert on Jan. 9 at a nightclub and that the proceeds would go toward paying for Tom-mie's transplant. "You can raise money for a lot of things, and this little baby comes up and he does need a liver transplant," Campbell said. Tommie's doctor, Dennis Shermeta, said the University of Chicago Medical Centreoffers alternatives not available in Arizona. The Chicago hospital recently performed the nation's first two living donor liver transplant operations. Mrs. Tenuta said she would be willing to donate part of her liver, but that the first order of business is to move to Chicago with her son:

#### Global weather

(major world cities)

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The footage stopped. Then shots of Ceausescu's

### try to persuade the local Communists to return to the Kremlin fold.

Honecker ousted after clash with Gorbachev EAST BERLIN (Agencies) — East Germany's Stalinist leader Erich Honecker was ousted after a clash with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev in October, a

former politburo member dis-

closed Wednesday. Horst Sindermann said in an interview with the Communist Honecker spurned Gorbachev's call for reform in East Germany.

The realisation that Honecker had to go was constantly growing. The last straw was Gorbachev's visit for the 40th anniversary (of the East German state, Oct. 7)," said Sindermann, former president of the rubberstamp parliament, who was expelled from the Communist Party

in November. The two Korean states have "Gorbachev had a very good been bitter rivals since the penindiscussion with the politburo. He sula was divided roughly along the 38th Parallel at the end of World War II in 1945. The border

because we had a higher econo-

mic level," he said. "Honecker... dragged out U.N. statistics showing we had higher productivity than the Soviet Union. He used that to justify sticking to the old course, saying we could manage very well on our own. He told Gorbachev

will go to the politburo and (then Prime Minister Willi) Stoph will propose removing Honecker. "And that's what happened," he

Sindermann said Honecker had done much to build up East Germany but "he introduced step by

Describing how the old leadership worked, Sindermann said spoke about his problems and all important decisions were ours, saying perestroika (restruc- worked out privately by Honeck-

youth newspaper Junge Welt that that," Sindenmann recounted. "That was the turning point. We left the meeting and agreed: That's enough. Tomorrow we

step a royalist system."

turing) was much easier for us |er and economic policy chief

Genter Mittag, then rubberstamped by the politburo.

He confirmed reports that when Honecker fell ill during the summer, he sent his official number two, Egon Krenz, on holiday to prevent him from taking over the Krenz replaced Honecker as

general secretary of the party in October but resigned under public pressure after only 44 days in associated with the old regime. New Froum will not become

full party a separate development, New Forum, East Germany's largest opposition group, said Tuesday it will remain a broad

political movement but will not constitute itself into a full politic-The group, which claims

200,000 membes, said its members can run as independent candidates in free elections set for

in East Berlin. Tuesday's statement said the future election law, which is now under discussion by various groups, should allow independent candidates to run in May's elec-

ernment, created in a peaceful revolution after 40 years of Communist leadership, has agreed with the opposition to hold free elections on May 6, 1990.

### has been sealed since. Ceausescu remained defiant to the end

AGANA, Guam (AP) - A weakening typhoon Jack began to drift toward this U.S. territory in the western Pacific Wednesday BUCHAREST (R) - Romaand was forecast to at least brush the island Friday, according to nian dictator Nicolae Ceausescivil defence officials. At 5 p.m. (0700 GMT) Wednesday, the cu and his wife Elena went to storm with winds of 160 kilometres per hour (kph) and gusts to their deaths at the hands of an 200 kph was located 265 kilometres east of Guam, moving at army firing squad defiantly deabout 4.8 ligh to the west southwest, said George Toves, a Guan nying the right of their military civil descrice officer. "Porecasters can't determine how close it will come, but it's expected to pass Guam during the day Priday," said Toves. "We'll get some portion of it." accusers to judge them. "I do not recognize this court
I will be judged only by the
people," Ceausescu repeatedly
told the military prosecutor in

a videotaped Romanian television broadcast late Tuesday. The television did not show the couple's faces when their death sentence was pronounced, apparently without any pause in proceedings after the attempted interrogation. But Ceausescu was heard clearly to say: "It doesn't matter. It has no importance."

The Ceausescus, seized Fricity after the revolution which overthrew them, were excepted by firing agend after Manday's trial in a secret location convicted them of geno-cide and other crimes. The country's new Prime

Minister Petre Roman said Tuesday the pair were summarily executed because of fears that forces loyal to the Ceausescus were planning a rescue attempt.

The hour-long videotape of the final hours of the couple who ruled Romania with an iron hand for 24 years showed Ceausescu, 71, arguing angrily at the army tribanal Monday and declaring in a loud voice: "I do not recognise this court. Read the constitution."

"We've read the constitution," an off-screen voice answered. "We know it better than you." "I will not answer a single

question," Ceausescu said. The screening ended with a final highest of Commons into the last always his figure of a final control of a concrete wall, his eyes open

and blood oozing from his : head.

The television never showed his accusers, but broadcast their voices.

At one stage challenged on what he had done for society, he said: "I built hospitals." Questioned about food shortages, he curtly retorted: "The people have 200 kilos of

Both were dressed neatly, she in a fur-collared blue topcoat and black and white scarf with a red tie, he in a black coat. She sat grey faced, listening attentively to her accusers. From time to time her husband put his hand on her hand to reassure her as they sat at a table in a sparsely furnished

room. Ceausescu, seized Friday after the revolution which overthrew him, was executed with his wife after Monday's swift trial found him guilty of geno-cide and other crimes against the state.

"I will answer nothing. I will sign nothing. I will not recognise this court," Ceausescu

"Who ordered the shooting of the people?" the interroga-"I will not answer a single question," Ceausescu replied.

Do not interpret my silence as "I will only answer to the working class," said Ceansescu, who often started at the ceiling. "I will tell the people. I

will answer to the working

"The people should fight to destroy this band which together with foreign powers wants to destroy the country and has carried out a coup, Ceausescu screamed, pointing frantically with his finger.

He often wagged his finger

in the gesture that was a hall-mark of the hectoring style he adopted throughout his politic-

Ceausescu emotionally waved his hand up and down and said he would answer only to parliament. Elena occasionally smiled

and mumbled. Earlier Tuesday, a member of the National Salvation Front interim government quoted her as telling her captors: "We want to die together, we do not want

"What possessed you to reduce the people to the state they are in?" the interrogator asked. "Not even the peasants had enough wheat and had to come to Bucharest to buy

"Why did the people have to

"This is a lie," Ceausescu said. "Think carefully. It is a lie and proves the lack of patriotism currently in the country.

"You destroyed the Romanian people and their economy," the interrogator said.
"Such things are unheard of in the civilised world." "We do not intend to argue

with you," Ceausescu said.

"The population had every-

thing it needed."
Elone stared absently with apparent lack of interest.

I will answer only to the people's parliament in connection with treason and the coup and how things happened in Romanian history and you will all answer to the people,"

Ceausescu said. "How can you let them speak to you like that?" Elena said to her husband. "Will you allow them to speak to an academician in such a way?" Elena seemed exhausted and was slumped against the wall in her chair most of the time. But sometimes her eves darted back and forth. "Let Elena Ceausescu tell us

about the costs of publishing

her books abroad," the off-

secreen voice said. "I gave my entire life for my people," she said angrily, mak-ing chopping motions with her busband. "Our people." "On the basis of the actions

of the members of the Ceausescu family, we condemn the two of you to death," the off-screen voice said. "We confiscate all your property." Then there was a freezeframe and the accused pair's

reaction was not visible. "Please enter into the minutes that all the conditions exist to bring a verdict of guilty," the voice said.

The off-screen voice, in air angry and decisive tone, then listed the articles under which the two were found guilty.

"We tried to get you a lawyer," the voice said. "Your crimes were such that you merit the biggest penalty."

Ceausescu tried to comfort his wife by touching her hand. She looked down and licked

"It is sad that you do not wish to confess the crimes you have committed against the Romanian people," the voice said. "We mean here in Timisoara and Bucharest." "You have not only dep-

rived the people of bread and heating, but you imprisoned the Romanian spirit which could not express itself in any way. You took oxygen from the wounded," the voice con-

"Your terrorists supplied themselves in the underground and opposed the people. You have drained us. You went to the Ayatollah to make your final goodbyes (a reference to 'Ceausescu's state visit to Iran last week). You call on the people. How can you face this very people?"

na laughed. "This laugh says all that needs to be said about you," the voice said.

"On the basis of your behaviour, you belong to in a madhouse," the voice said. "The two of you, if you beg my pardon, should listen to what I am saying."

Ceausescu throughout the

trial often turned his head back and forth like a trapped "You have nothing to say about the revolution? The

blood spilled in Timisoara?"

the voice said. Ceausescu stood up. "I can only be accused by the people's parliament. You are purschists, the destroyers of Romania's independence," he sat

down again. "I was respected when I went to the factories..." but the voice interrupted him before he could finish When ordered to stand. Ceausescu and his wife re-

fused. "It is unanimously decided that Ceausescu Nicolae and Ceanseson Elena be given the maximum sentence for genocide against the Romanian people and the destruction of the Romanian land," the voice

"I refuse to recognise this court," Ceausescu declared.

blood-stained corpse, previously shown on television, were screened again. An army officer said so many soldiers had volunteered to join the firing squad that a lottery was held to allocate places.

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